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THE LITERARY DIARY  
OF  
EZRA STILES, D.D., LL.D.

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VOLUME II









PRESIDENT STILES

*From a pencil sketch by St. John Honeywood, December 30, 1780*



Portrait of a woman

From a collection of portraits of women of the 18th century



THE  
LITERARY DIARY

OF  
EZRA STILES, D.D., LL.D.

PRESIDENT OF YALE COLLEGE

EDITED UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF THE CORPORATION OF YALE UNIVERSITY

BY  
FRANKLIN BOWDITCH DEXTER, M.A.

*VOLUME II*  
*MARCH 14, 1776—DECEMBER 31, 1781*

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YALE UNIVERSITY



# LITERARY DIARY

## VOLUME II

March, 1776.

14. At VII this Morning landed safely at Dighton.<sup>1</sup>

15. Carted my goods to M<sup>r</sup> Whitmarshes, half of whose house I have hired for sixteen Dollars a year.

16. Lodged with my family in my own hired House.

17. Ldsday. I preached at Dighton. A.M. on Tit. ii, 11-14. P.M. Rev. xii, 11.<sup>2</sup> This morning, or rather about Midnight, a firing at Boston—very heavy about Sunrise & heard here<sup>3</sup> till Noon, while we were at Meeting & by persons at Meeting.

18. About X<sup>h</sup> A.M. Mr. Channing<sup>4</sup> bro't in the agreeable but almost incredible News, that *yesterday, the King's Troops evacuated Boston*: and 500 of ours having had the smallpox entered and took possession of it. Confirmed by repeated Reports from Taunton all Day.

19. Col. Ezra Richmond at XI<sup>h</sup> A.M. informed me that a man is arrived who lodged in Boston the night before last, & says 1500 of our Troops entered Boston on Lordsday—and that the Plunder & Desolation was not so bad as we had heard. Mr. ——— just from the Camp told me he saw our troops enter Boston on Ldsday. This Afternoon I rode to Taunton. In the Evening we saw a fire in the North.

20. We learn that the Fire last night was at the Castle ; the Kings Troops set fire to a Blockhouse there.

<sup>1</sup> Dighton is on Taunton River, nearly twenty miles northeast from Fogland Ferry, which is on the east side of the island of Rhode Island, upwards of five miles northeast from Newport. Assonet is a village in Freetown, on the opposite side of Taunton River from Dighton.

<sup>2</sup> The First Congregational Church in (North) Dighton had now two pastors, the Rev. Nathaniel Fisher (Harvard 1706), aged and infirm, and the Rev. John Smith (see this Diary, Apr. 22, 1772) ; but Dr. Stiles during his residence in the town seems to have preached statedly in a meeting house in the south part of the town, where a church was gathered some years later.

<sup>3</sup> Dighton is about 36 miles south of Boston.

<sup>4</sup> William Channing, one of Dr. Stiles's Newport flock.



21. I saw several Gentlemen who came out of Boston last Eveng. sun an hour high : say the Enemy are blowing up the Castle, and firing upon our people who are entrenching on Dorchester neck on Point next the Castle. The small-pox in fourteen houses designated with flags & Sentries. No Entrance into or Departure out of Town but by Passes. The Tories and Mandamus Councillors gone off in the Fleet—some Tories left behind. When we possessed Dorch. Hill & Nook hill, the Enemy threw themselves in Motion as if to come out & attack us—2000 Men were actually sent down to the Castle on Wednesday (13<sup>th</sup>) Night last week & then were to land on Dorchester, while G. Howe with 1500 & the Light Horse to come out to Roxb<sup>y</sup>, at the same time those at Bunker hill to come out upon the Left Wing. Thursday Morning 14<sup>th</sup> there happened a violent N E storm which is said to have disadjusted their Plan. They returned from the Castle & a Council of War was held—Orders were given to embark, which struck the Tories. On Friday 16<sup>th</sup> the Inhabitants were ordered not to come out of their Doors. A week or more before this they had been loading the Ships—but now a Departure was obvious & known—and the Embark<sup>a</sup> went on with the greatest precipitation. They expected G. Washington would have Knowledge of their Embark<sup>a</sup> or at least the real prepar<sup>a</sup> for it; & the whole of the Kings Army was filled with Fear & even struck with Terror, at the Apprehension that our Army would rush in upon them. They left Bunker Hill Ldsday Morning 17<sup>th</sup> at Eight o'Clock, leaving Images of Hay dressed like Sentries standing, with a Label on the Breast of one, inscribed "Welcome Brother Jonathan." <sup>1</sup> They left the T<sup>o</sup> about Ten o'Clock : and about Noon our Troops marched in & took Possession—full of Caution least a Stratagem might surprize them. During the feint of an Attack it is sd. G. Howe drafted 3000 Volunteers—but a great Reluctancy appeared, a Murmur ran thro' the Lines—another Bunkerhill Fight, said they, to one another. These were dismissed and a second time a large body draughted for the feigned purpose—a greater aversion appears, & Bunkerhill again & Murmuring—so as to arise towards Mutiny, & breaking out into open public Declaration they would not go on this service. This the Report of those in Boston who saw it. The General gave over the Attack. Something of this probably

<sup>1</sup>The use of this phrase by the British at this date seems to prove that the common explanation of its origin (with reference to Washington's consultations with Gov. Jonathan Trumbull) cannot be the correct one.

true: it is certain they went off with Fright, Terror & Precipitation—tho' in a good Cause brave Troops.

G. Howe demanded all the Linnens & Woolens out of the Stores. Some Houses plundered by the Soldiers but not by Gen. Howes Permission—about 300 old Buildings destroyed—rest left in good Order. Less damage than expected. The Goods carried off by the Tories & Army £50,000 ster.—Kings Military stores, Canon, 2700 Bush. Wheat, Coal &c. Left £70,000, besides European Goods estimated at 100 or £150,000.

22. Returned to Dighton last Night.

23. The whole Country in Alarm. Gen. Assembly of Rh. Isld. have sent Messrs Ellery & Marchant to G. Washington to solicit Troops & a general Officer for Newport, where they are much alarmed. Wallace is gone out of the Harbor. Mr. ——— is returned to Virginia from London, whither he had been for Orders. But the Bishop of London refused to ordain him for a Country in Rebellion.

24. Ldsday. I preached at Dighton A.M. on Col. 1, 27. P M. Isai. xxxvii, 23 & 29. Occasioned by the Victory at Boston. Reading *Ursinus* on the Catechism. Col. Bowers came from the Camp yesterday P.M. says the fleet *not* sailed yet, tho' some Ships of Tories sailed for Halifax.

25. This Aft. IV<sup>b</sup> at Dighton we heard Canon towards Boston. M<sup>r</sup> Ellery informs of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Dana, Williams & Jn<sup>o</sup>. Temple Arrival from Eng<sup>l</sup><sup>d</sup>; they are gone to Congress at Philadelphia.

26. Noon. Report of more Canon. Major Tupper & a party of Provincials said to be cut off.

27. M<sup>r</sup> Bailies, from Cambridge yesterday, says all Things still : about half the Fleet sailed on Monday. Firing from among the Ships at Departure. I rode to Warren. Col. Belcher told me that Gov. Bradford<sup>1</sup> expected 2000 from Cambridge into the Colony of Rh. Island this Afternoon, & Gen. Washington to dine at Providence to day, but M<sup>r</sup> Cahoon just from Providence don't confirm it.

28. Returned with my Daughter Ruth from Warren. Report that Quebec is taken : doubtful.

29. I went to R<sup>b</sup> Island.—Lodged at M<sup>r</sup> McCurrys. Wind N.

30. Wind N E & S E. Uncertain the Course of the Fleet, whether for Halifax, Rh. Isld, N. York or &c, &c. News of the Victory of the Colonists over the Ministerial Troops in N<sup>o</sup> Carolina.

<sup>1</sup> Nicholas Cooke was now Governor, and William Bradford Deputy Governor.

31. Ldsday. I preached in my own Pulpit in Newport A.M. on 2 Cor. v. 14, 15. P.M. Tit. iii. 8. Present 90 or 100. Alarm in the Morning that 20 ships were seen off Newport, amidst a thick fog. Wind all day N b E and N. Heavy snow storm especially last night, thick fog in Morning.

April.

1. Alarm sent out yesterday by Express which left Head Quarters X A.M. This Morning at VII Express sent off to contradict it. The News yesterday spread amazingly. At IV P.M. the Beacon at Provid. was fired to alarm the Country. And Gov. Cook sent Express to G. Washington to reach him by IX in the Evening, & to alarm all along down to the Camp. It is supposed & said that there are fifteen Thousd. Men on their March for Rd. Isld. this Morning. This Aft. I saw one who marched from Provid. at VII this Morning. Several Comp<sup>a</sup> are arrived on this Isld, but the most were stopped. Four Captives were sent from the Country last Week to be exchanged for our prisoners on board Wallace. Three refused to go on board, & were imprudently enlisted into our Army on this Isld. One of these informed Col. Babcock yesterday morning that he saw 20 or 30 Sail off, & occasioned the false alarm. But none have been since seen. Wind N E.

2. Wind N E & E—exceeding fair for the fleet if bound to Newport or Virginia. Last Saturday were on this Isld. *six hundred Men* of which 70 sick, on Conanicut 317. One half of the latter bro't over to Newpt Ldsday Evening.

3. Thick fog. Wind N. Fog all day. Gov. Ward<sup>1</sup> Member of Congress died at Philad<sup>a</sup> 26<sup>th</sup> March. . . The fleet sailed from Boston Tuesday & Wednesday last Week, leaving five ships.

4. Clear. High Wind at W. & N.W. We have here at Newpt. a fleet of about fifteen sail under Capt. Wallace, of which four Men o'War—one Sloop went ashore.

5. M<sup>r</sup> Shaw left Nantucket last Wednesday. No fleet passed there—so probably gone for Halifax. Wallace & his fleet went out to day & returned to night & are anchored above Coasters Harbor a Mile above the Town. Lately died Rev<sup>d</sup> Samuel Hall<sup>2</sup> of New

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Ward (Harvard Coll. 1733).

<sup>2</sup> Yale Coll. 1716, minister of the West Parish in Wallingford, Conn., now the town of Cheshire.



Cheshire in Connecticut ætat 80, Min. 52. An intimate acquaintance of my Father.

6. About Sunrise a Firing began. Wallace & his fleet had anchored last Night within half a mile of the Point at Coddingtons Cove. Our soldiers under the Command of the intrepid & gallant Col. Babcock the latter part of the night had carried down from Head Quarters at Banisters house two eighteen pounders to the shore & began firing on the fleet before sunrise & continued it for two hours or from V<sup>h</sup> 20' to VII<sup>h</sup> 20'. Before this the Ships weighed or slipt anchors & made off, having returned half a dozen shot, while we had given them between 30 & 40 shot; I counted 33.

All this Morning and before day much heavy fireing off at sea was heard in Town; I heard sundry guns at sea while Col. Babcock was attacking Wallace.

And at VIII o'Clock were seen two ships under Block Isld. & four eastwd. of Block Isld. standing W. & northward.—Alarm.—At IX o'Clock in Morning seen a ship standing in from sea, firing every ten Minutes as she came along. And about XI½ or Noon, she came to anchor off the fort. She proved to be the Glasgow of 24 Guns, Capt. Howe, & is much shattered and damaged. By this time Wallace & the rest of the fleet (which had again anchored after Breakfast at N<sup>o</sup> End of Conanicut) were under sail beating out Wind at S.W. & stood off for sea. His fleet met the Glasgow as she was anchoring, Wallace sent his Boat to How which instantly returned, without stop<sup>g</sup> his Ship. Three were left out last night; one viz. Glasgow is come in leaving the Bombbrig & another out. Wind S W all day. This Aft. we hear that Adm. Hopkins is off & suppose he has had an Engag<sup>t</sup> or Sea fight.

This Aft. the Troops removed one Eighteen pounder & 5 other canon to Brentons Point.

7. Ldsday. At V<sup>h</sup> this Morn<sup>g</sup> began from Brentons Point a heavy Fireing upon the *Glasgow* & a *Hospital Ship*. In a very great or thick fog, so that I could scarcely discern the Ships, tho' I could hear the Shrieks & Destress & Confusion or Noise of Tumult on board. They instantly cut their Cable & very slowly got off & went over to Conaniccott. In half an hour Col. Richmond discharged *thirty-five* Canon shot at the Ships. At Noon our people retook a prize sloop coming into harbor.—I preached A.M. on Ps. 119, 40. P.M. Heb. iii, 14. Morning fog & wind S W light air: P.M. wind N and N E.

8. Wind N & N E all day, cloudy, rainy.— The Congress has made several Generals, as Col. Howe of N<sup>o</sup> Carolina &c. and also Col. James More who commanded in N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> Brig. General. Also Gov. Martin of N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> has created & commissioned a Kings General viz Brig. Gen. Donald M<sup>c</sup>Donald who commanded about fifteen hundred *Scotch* Regulators (an American Levy) at Cross Creek, within 20 Miles of Wilmington N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> on 27<sup>th</sup> February last, when they attacked us, our Army being 1000 or Eleven hundred. The Action which was at Moore's Creek Bridge was short & the Tories routed loosing about thirty killed & mortally wounded—we had only two wounded one of which died next day. Gen. Moore arrived a few hours after the Action, in which *Col. Caswel* commanded for us. Next day we took Gen. M<sup>c</sup>Donald æt. 65 and he is prisoner in Halifax Goal N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>.

In one fourt'night 9400 Men enlisted into the service of the *united Colonies*, in N<sup>o</sup> Carolina. At the Time of the above Victory Ld. *Campbel* Gov. of S<sup>o</sup> Caro.—Martin Gov. of N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> & Gen. Clinton were on board ship at Wilmington waiting this Army of American Scotchmen to come there & joyn the Body of Troops expected from Europe.

On the *tenth of Jan<sup>r</sup>* last Gov. Martin erected the *Kings Standard*, and issued a Proclamation calling on all to repair to it. Near *three thousand*, it is said, were coming in—but this Defeat may damp them. It is a Scotch Affair. “Brig. General M<sup>c</sup>Donald was in the Scotch Rebellion 1745, and headed many of the same Name & Clan who are now his followers. These Emigrants from the Charity & Benevolence of the Assembly of N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> large pecuniary Contributions, and to encourage them in making their Settlements were exempted from the payment of Taxes for several years. It is a fact that numbers of that ungrateful people who have been lately in arms, when arrived in Car<sup>o</sup> were without the Necessaries of Life—their Passages even p<sup>d</sup> by the charitable Contributions of the Inhabitants. They have since under every Encourag<sup>t</sup> that the Province of N<sup>o</sup> Carolina could afford them acquired Fortunes very rapidly, & thus they requite their Benefactors.”

“The Colonels *Moore, Martin, Caswell, Polk, Thackston, Lillington, & Long*, have great Merit: any one of these Gent. in this County would be an over match for a *Howe, a Burgoyne, or a Clinton*. Their Knowledge of the Country & necessary Modes of Attack would frustrate any Attempt fallen upon by the Characters last

mentioned. The whole Province in general consider Regulars in the woods as an easy Conquest."

Col. Henry Babcock, Commandant on Rh. Isld. last night opened Trenches upon the Point, being a Lunette 30 yds & 10. The Tories have taken amazing Pains to prevent this—but the Inchantment is broken, & the Town not canonaded & burnt by the Enemy as was predicted.

The Congress have resolved to permit Privateers to take & make prizes of all Vessels and Property of the Inhabitants of G. Britain, in Return for the Parliamentary Confiscation of all American Navigation, & making the Capture of our Vessels lawful Prizes.

His Excell<sup>y</sup> Gen. Washington left Providence yesterday (Apr. 7.) on his Way to New York.

We hear that Adm. Hopkins is arrived at N. London with his Fleet. It was he that had *the Naval Fight* off Block Isld. which we heard last Saturday Morning, when he took the Bomb Brig & another Vessel. He was returning from New Providence W. Indies where he took a Vessel of 16 Guns, another Ship, & bro't off the Gov. (Montfort) & his Lady, & a number of Canon & military stores.

9. . . . Wind N. cloudy all day. About 200 Men at Work at the Trenches on the Point in Newport. The Town thought to have opposed them, but desisted. Wallace & his fleet still out & cruising off between Montauk & Block Isld.

An Express from N. London brings acc<sup>d</sup> that Adm. Hopkins is there with Gov. Brown & Co of New Providence, 71 Canon 18 Mortars. His fleet with which he sailed from Philad<sup>a</sup> are

|          |                                         |
|----------|-----------------------------------------|
| Alfred   | 1 Ship 32 Guns.—The Admiral.            |
| Columbus | 1 D <sup>o</sup> 30 G.—Capt Whipple.    |
| Cabot    | 1 Brigg 18 G.—Capt Hopkins, son of Adm. |
|          | 1 D <sup>o</sup> 18 G.—Capt Biddle.     |
|          | 1 Sloop 10 G.—                          |

About midnight or perhaps 1 o'Clock Saturday Morning (6 Apr<sup>y</sup>) they fell in with 4 of Wallace's fleet off Block Isld, viz

|                              |                       |
|------------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Bomb Brig 14 Guns          | } taken Apr. 6, 1776. |
| 1 Schooner— 8                |                       |
| 1 Sloop— 8                   |                       |
| 1 Ship Glasgow 24 Capt. Howe |                       |



Naval Engagement. Our fleet heavy laden with Artillery Stores from N. Providence. The fleetest ship or sailor Cap<sup>t</sup> Hopkins came up first. The Admirals Ship came up & engaged but her Tiller Wheel soon shot away. The Cabot came under the stern of the Glasgow & poured in a Broadside, upon which the Glasgow turned off & made the best of her way for Newport.

The Admiral carried in three prizes to New-London ; he lost 8 or 10 Men, took 70 or 80 prisoners, among the rest a number of Negroes. Cap<sup>t</sup> Hopkins wounded in one of his hands. This is the beginning of the operations of the American fleet on this Coast.

11. I left Newport & rode for Dighton & lodged at Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Curry's on Rh. Isld. After I left town, & about IV o'Clock P.M., the Scarborough of 20 Guns & a Transpt. of 18 G. & 170 Men with 2 Prizes, being part of a Fleet from Savanna for B<sup>n</sup> arrived & anchored at Newport. Wind S.W. Last night at XI<sup>h</sup> began a most vigorous & heavy Canonade. Our two Gallies attacked & took the two Prizes & bro't them off. And the Scarboro' pursuing, the Forts or Canon from the P<sup>t</sup> at upper end of Newp<sup>t</sup> & from Brentons Point played upon the *Scarboro'* & *Scymetar*, & obliged them to remove at a distance, over beyond Rose Isld. towards Conanicott. The Firing continued till towards day ; we gave about an hundred shot, those from the Gallies 18 pounders, & had none killed & only one wounded, tho' the *Scarboro'* fired briskly. This I learned next day.

12. This Morning about day, a storm came on, high winds variable, generally S and S.W. Snow. At V½ P.M. I rode back into Town, to Head Quarters at Banisters and rec<sup>d</sup> from Col. Babcock an account of the last Night's Action. Sir James Wright, Gov. of Georgia, & other Tories are on board the Scarborough, Refugees bound for Boston. The Scarboro' is part of a fleet of ten sail which came from Georgia 30 March & bound for Boston. Had not heard of the Evacuation of Boston—in a fog parted from the fleet the day before her Arrival here. Wallace at Fishers Isld. I lodged at Mr M<sup>c</sup>Corry's again.

13. Rode to my Family at Dighton. At Howlands ferry report that a fleet arrived at Newp<sup>t</sup> last Evening. Wind S.W.

14. Ldsday. I preached at Dighton. . . . Canon heard towds Rh. Isld.

15. Some particulars.—On Thursday Ap. 4 Adm. Hopkins fleet of six sail fell in with & took the Bomb brig 8 Guns Cap<sup>t</sup> Steeds. The 5<sup>th</sup> took a Schooner six Guns. Saty. 6<sup>th</sup> engaged the Glasgow,

put her to flight & took her Tender. Loss on board the Admirals ship 6 seamen—killed in Bomb Brig one, wounded 7. On board the Columbus Cap<sup>t</sup> Whipple one wounded. The Cabot had 3 killed & 5 wounded. Tot. ten killed &c.

The Engag<sup>t</sup> began at half past one in the Morn<sup>g</sup>. lasted three Glasses—at daylight the Glasgow put off Newp<sup>t</sup>—at sunrise Hopkins gave over the Chase, and went into N. London a fleet of twelve sail.

An intercepted Letter shows Gov. Eden of Mary<sup>l</sup><sup>d</sup> to be an Enemy to America. . . . .

17. It is said that all of the Ships have left Newport. Col Babcock has removed the Troops into the compact part of the Town of Newport. This day Daughter Betsy is æt. 18.

18. The Congress by a Resolve passed last month have opened Commerce with all the World, except Great Britain & the Brit. W. Indies.

19. Col. Babcock carried under Guard to Providence—accused of Rigor to his Officers. He is an excellent Officer, well understands his Duty in the Military way, having been bro't up in the Service all the last War. But the poor Gentleman is subject to a species of Lunacy or Lunatic Frenzy, which has for years past been constitutional with him. This is heightened into Madness & Distraction by Drink. And tho' he takes great pains to refrain & keep himself from Liquor, yet at Times he looses self-government—& in these frieks behaves much out of Character. He is otherwise extremely sensible & of true military Spirit and fit for a General. He was the first Man that set foot in Boston after its Evacuation.—He put his L<sup>t</sup> Col. under Guard for a Misdemeanor & deferred the Court Martial too long; upon which the Governor & Committee of Safety at Providence sent for Col. Babcock.<sup>1</sup>

20. One ship only left at Boston.

21. Ldsday. I preached at Dighton. . . . . Four Ships & 3 Tenders came into Nantasket last friday & sailed yestdy. noon leaving still — ships.

22. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Fisher, who took his first Degree A.B. 1706, tells me that when he took his 2d degree he was appointed Respondent

<sup>1</sup> Henry Babcock was graduated at Yale in 1752, under Dr. Stiles as Tutor, and their relations had been especially intimate. He was now dismissed from office, as being partly deprived of his reason, and he lived in retirement until his death in 1787.

by Pres't. Leverett, to defend this—Opera bona Salutem non merita sunt. On Commencement Day he was opposed by Admiral Walker (of the Fleet bound to Canada) and also by another Officer from abroad—at length Paul Dudley took up on Mr. Fishers side, & the President closed. He never heard of the like before or since in the Commencement Exercises at Harvard College.<sup>1</sup>

24. Rode to Taunton & preached there a sacrament Lecture from Eph. ii, 8-10.

25. At Taunton I baptized Miss Susanna Bird æt. 18, circa, she owning the Covenant & being in a sick & declining state. Her Father M<sup>r</sup> Nat. Bird is a Refugee with his Family from Newport. The Family are of the Chh of Engld; but the sick Daughter desired the Ordinance in our way, which I performed at her Fathers Dwelling, having no Opportunity to propound her as usual. Which I have frequently dispensed with espec<sup>y</sup>. in Cases of Sickness. Visited my Rh. Isld Friends Refugees sojourning in Taunton.

26. Rode to Rehoboth. 27. To Providence.

28. Ldsday. I preached at Providence A.M. Eph. iii, 8-10. P.M. Ps. 34, 7, 8, and baptized Edward Son of Mr. Richard Salter of Boston and Jane his Wife. After Meeting rode 4 M to Patuxet where I visited & prayed with M<sup>rs</sup> Searing (Relict of my Predecessor at Newport) very dangerously sick.<sup>2</sup>

29. Saw Francis Dana Esq. late from London and last from Philadelphia. The Ministry & Parl<sup>t</sup> have no Intention of Accomodation—the Scotch Influence blinds the Parl<sup>t</sup> & Nation. At Congress is a good Majority prepared for any Question, even Independency, if necessary. The Maryld. Delegates are under Instructions and themselves not yet clear for Independency, tho' coming to it. Some of the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Delegates against Independency, but at the new Assembly will be released from Instructions, and then will vote for it. D<sup>r</sup> *Franklin* is firm for Independency. D<sup>r</sup> *Dickinsons* Patriotism not doubted, but timid to the last Degree, & for putting off till Commissioners come, tho' he has little Expectation from them, but then he thinks the way will be more clear. Mess<sup>rs</sup> *Duane* and *Jay* of the N. York Delegates are Tories at heart, insist on waiting for Commissioners & doubt not their bringing honorable Terms for Pacification. D<sup>r</sup> *Zubly* left the Congress last fall *abruptly*, because they

<sup>1</sup> This entry is taken from Dr. Stiles's Itinerary, not from the Diary.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Searing (born Mary Ellery) survived until 1787. See this Diary, Jan. 5, 1788.



would not come into his plan of *petitioning* again, and because he was against Independency which he plainly saw the Congress had resolved on. The Congress fearing he might do Mischief in Georgia, sent off one after him. It is said that D<sup>r</sup> Zubly has been detected in a Correspondence with Ld. Campbel Gov. of S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, & thereupon was taken into Custody. It had been more to D<sup>r</sup> Zubly's Honor to have kept to the Character of a Minister of Jesus Christ, without assuming a political Character.

S<sup>o</sup> Carolina is not represented in Congress at this Time, because one Delegate<sup>1</sup> at Philadelphia is seized with a paralytic Shock; another<sup>2</sup> tho' present *never acts*; and M<sup>r</sup> Gadsden is sent home to assist in settling Government. M<sup>r</sup> Hooper a Delegate from N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> sent home to assist in modeling the Government there & took a plan from M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Adams, viz three Branches of Legislature all elective—the Deputies by the Counties—the Council & Governor by the People at large.

Virginia Delegates firm & immoveable & ready for all Events.

The *Cities* of Philadelphia and N. York each equally divided between *Liberty* & *Parliament*. I perceive some of the Delegates of Pennsylv<sup>a</sup> & N. York not only wavering, but Enemies to Liberty.

*All the rest of the Members of Congress are at HEART true Friends to Liberty & their Country*—all at *Heart* such, except some of the Delegates of those two Provinces.

The Congress has stated the price of Tea now in the Country at 46 the pound, & implicitly permitted its Use, tho' they have prohibited all future Importations of Tea. They have ordered that Custom houses be erected in every Colony.

Last Sep<sup>r</sup> Mr. Temple dined with Gov. Hutchinson in London, when the Gov. questioned him much on our Affairs. M<sup>r</sup> Temple assured him the Americans would fight till  $\frac{3}{4}$  of them were slain before they would submit. Aye, said the Governor sneeringly, perhaps N. England may, but the southern Colonies will not, for they abound with Scotch, who will joyn the Kings Troops.

Thus far Conversation with M<sup>r</sup> Dana.

30. Returning from Provid. to Dighton; but detained by Rain at Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Rogersons in Rehoboth. The Georgia Congress 2<sup>d</sup> of Febr<sup>r</sup> last, elected for their Delegates to the Continental Congress five Members viz, Archibald Bullock, John Houstoun, Lyman Hall, Button Gwinnett, & George Walton Esquires. M<sup>r</sup> Hall & I were

<sup>1</sup> Thomas Lynch.

<sup>2</sup> John Rutledge.

co-temporaries at Yale College & intimately acquainted—We were born about three miles apart—he was once an ordained Presbyterian Minister at Stratfield in Connecticut. He removed & settled a Physician in Georgia. . . . .

May.

1. Returned from Providence to Dighton. This day the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Brett æt. 56<sup>1</sup> cir. was dismissed from the Chh. in Freetown at his Request—being under great Discouragements for want of a Support, & his Chh. being reduced to only three Male Members, & he having a Call elsewhere.

2. The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Smith of Dighton visited me returning from the Dismission of M<sup>r</sup> Brett & asked me to preach his Lecture, which I did, M<sup>r</sup> Brett also being there. He tells me, only two Brethren Deacon Read & D<sup>r</sup> Turner of the Chh. were present at the Dismission—they called in the advice of Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Toby & Smith.

3. I understand that Adm. Hopkins &c assembled a T<sup>o</sup> Meeting at Newp<sup>t</sup> last Monday to vote whether they would assist in defending the T<sup>o</sup> & working on the Lines, & in Case of Refusal or Dissatisfaction with the Works & Fortifications carrying on there, then he would remove & carry off all the Canon & leave them defenceless. In a full Meeting they voted unanimously to assist. Wonderful! Where were the Tories? [Absent.]

4. Went to Newport.

5. Ldsday. I preached at Newport A.M. Ps. lxxxvi, 11. P.M. Mat. vii, 21, & notified the Sacrament & Lecture.

9. My son Ezra came to me at Newp<sup>t</sup>. He arrived at Dighton from College the beginning of this Week. The Scholars have preferred to the Corporation a Petition for Removal of Presid<sup>t</sup> Dagget.

10. I preached my sacramental Lecture & published Tho. Townsend & W<sup>o</sup> English.

12. Ldsday. I preached A. M. Jn<sup>o</sup> x, 9 & administered the Lds Supper to 28 Communicants being the Remnant of my scattered Flock. P.M. 1 Tim<sup>o</sup> i, 17. I published M<sup>r</sup> Townsend & Eliza. English twice to day, & in the Evening I married them.

15. Returned to Dighton.

16. Excessive hot. Therm<sup>o</sup> 91 in N<sup>o</sup> shade.

<sup>1</sup> Silas Brett, son of Seth of Bridgewater, Mass., born 1716, ordained in Freetown, Dec., 1747.

17. Continental Fast. I preached at Dighton. A.M. Esther iv,  
 3. P.M. 2 Chron. xx, 11-13.  
 18. News from Engld to 19<sup>th</sup> March. Cruelty !  
 19. Ldsdy. At Dighton. A.M. I preached Ps. xxv, 4, 5. P.M.  
 1 Thess. iii, 12, 13.  
 20. Visiting.  
 21. Rode to Association at Barrington.  
 22. Preached Association Lecture Isai. xlv, 22.  
 23. Returned to Dighton. News of another Defeat or Repulse  
 of our Army at Quebec.

24. Last friday a prize taken coming into Boston in sight of the Men o' War. She was 300 Tons with Military Stores, Value £40,000. ster. Part of her Loading was *Seventy five Tons of Powder* in 1500 large Barrels. The Men o' War lay in Nantasket Rode within 2 or 3 Miles of Pullens Pt. where the Prize passed & grounded in bringing in. She had 18 hands & six Canon but made no Resistance. The Continental Privateer Franklin Capt. Mugford that took her had 21 Men. While aground at Pullens Pt. our Men unloaded & carried off the Powder in Boats in open View of the Men o' War. She had been out from Europe five Weeks.

Ldsday 19<sup>th</sup> Inst. the Privateers afores<sup>d</sup> with only 21 and 6 Men, viz the Franklin Schooner Cap<sup>t</sup> Mugford & the Lady Washington of six Men, fell down for another Cruise. The Franklin run aground in the gut, the Lady Washington Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham anchored near Cap<sup>t</sup> Mugford. "And between 9 & 10 o'Clock (in the Evening) he discovered a number of Boats, which he hailed, & received for Answer that they were from Boston. He ordered them to keep off or he would fire on them. They begged him—not to fire for they were going on board him. Cap<sup>t</sup> Mugford instantly fired, & was followed by all his Men ; & cutting his Cable brought his broadside to bear, when he discharged his Canon loaded with Musquet Ball directly in upon them. Before the Canon could be discharged a second Time, 2 or 3 Boats were alongside, each of them supposed to have as many men on board as the Franklin, which were only 21 including Officers. By the best acco<sup>ts</sup> there were not less than thirteen Boats in all, many of them armed with Swivels, & having on board at the lowest Comput<sup>a</sup> Two hundred Men. Capt. Mugford & his Men plied those alongside so closely, with firearms and spears, & with such Intrepidity, Activity & Success, that two Boats were soon sunk, & all the men either killed



or drowned. But while the heroic Mugford with outstretched Arms was righteously dealing death & destruction to our base & unnatural Enemies, he received a fatal Ball in his Body, which in a few minutes put a period to his Life.—

After our brave men had maintained this unequal Contest for about half an hour, *the Enemy thought proper to retire*. The N<sup>o</sup> of Boats which attacked the Franklin was about 8 or 9—the Remainder to the N<sup>o</sup> of 4 or 5 at the same Time attacked Cap<sup>t</sup> Cunningham in the Lady Washington who then had on board only six Men besides himself. This brave little Comp<sup>s</sup> gave the Boats such a warm Reception, that the Enemy were soon glad to give over the Contest.”—Our Loss only one Man.

26. Ldsday. I preached at Providence.

27. Visiting at Providence. Confirm<sup>s</sup> of Quebec News.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Inst. a body rushed out from Quebec; we could not muster above Twohundred at the Lines—we retreated leaving our Artillery &c behind with 200 sick of the small-pox—100 of the sick of the small-pox came off—they pursued us 40 or 50 Miles towsds Montreal. Perhaps we might have 1500 Men there at Quebec. We had then about six Thousand on their Way thither. Gen. Arnold was at Montreal, Gen. Wooster had gone off a few days before. Two or 3 sail arrived at Quebec the s<sup>d</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> of May. We had but 6 days provisions—two days before, it was nearly resolved to raise the siege, our Discouragements so great, the Recruits so slow. The Destress was very great! It is a very unhappy & melancholly Event.

28. A Sloop with sixteen Thous<sup>d</sup> Dollars outset, sent from Provid. & returning from France with Ten Tons Powder, was lately taken on this Coast by the Men o’War & carried to Sandy Hook. Last Sat<sup>r</sup> our fleet sent in a Prize to Providence worth 4000 Dollars.

29. This day last year my dear Wife died. A day of destress & Sorrow never to be forgotten by me. She has already escaped one year of great Evil & Affliction.

30. Further acc<sup>t</sup> from Quebec. . . . It is supposed Gen. Carleton gained Intelligence of our Destress & Resolution to raise the Siege & on that concluded the Sally he made the 6<sup>th</sup> May (the same Morn<sup>g</sup> the ships came up) with about 1200 Men & 6 field pieces. That by the Dress of the Men they were supposed not to be regulars but people from the Town. On the unexpected Appea<sup>r</sup>

of the Ships and this Force our people quitted the place with Precipit<sup>a</sup> & Confusion leaving their Provision, Baggage, Canon & 200 sick behind. Canon viz. two 24 pounders, two 12 pounders, several 6 & 4 pounders, some Mortars, Howitzers &c all of Brass with some Iron pieces of various sizes. It was tho't about 100 sick went off with the small pox on them, & that they were generally the better for going out. . . . .

June.

1. Rode to Providence.
2. Ldsday. Preached at Providence A.M. Jn<sup>o</sup> x, 37, and administered the Sacrament to 40 or 50 Communicants. P.M. Ps. 36, 7.
3. Ezra came to me at Providence setting out for Yale College, & we rode to E. Greenwich.
4. Rode to M<sup>r</sup> Marchants S<sup>o</sup> Kingston where this Aft. I parted with my son Ezra.
5. Very contradictory News both from Canada and the southward, in our favor & against us. So we can depend on nothing. At V<sup>h</sup> P.M. I preached a Lecture in the Courthouse E. Greenwich on Heb. v, 8, 9. Lodged at M<sup>r</sup> Stevens's.
6. Rode to Providence & 4 M. beyond to visit M<sup>r</sup> Redwood & Mrs Ellery.
7. Returned to Dighton to sit down there for this Summer. I have declined the earnest applic<sup>a</sup> of the Congregational Chh. in Providence to remove my Family thither & serve them in the Ministry. I chuse to live in Retirement & Tranquillity till the political Storm be blown over; or if it should continue, to take longer Time to think of Removal.
8. The public News still various. Virginia have declared Independency, & ordered their Delegates in Congress to move for the same there. The Maryland & Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Delegates are still under Instructions *not* to vote for Independency. In Pensylv<sup>a</sup> the people opposing the Assembly, are about abolishing it & instituting a Convention & new Form of Government.
9. Ldsdy at Dighton. A. M. I preached on Micah vii, 8-9. P. M. Ps. 93, 5.
10. Heard that the *Yankey Hero*, Privateer, was taken on friday last at Boston, by the Milford Frigate 28 Guns just double force of the Yanky Hero. It was a bold & daring thing for a 14 Gun Privateer to attack a Kings ship of 28 Guns. The Engagem<sup>t</sup>

was obstinate, in sight of Boston, & continued two hours & an half, when the Hero was obliged to strike. A flag afterwards went on board & reported that we had five killed & 17 wounded.

12. Heard of ten Transports at Nantasket. Yesterday arrived at Providence a fine Jamaica Prize Ship taken by the Continental Brigg Cabot Capt. Hinman—84 Hhds Sugar, 115 Puncheons of Rum 22 Hhds. do. &c. mounted six Guns.

By letters from Philad<sup>a</sup> 6 June—acc<sup>o</sup> of three valuable Prizes taken by continental Privateers & ordered for N. Engld.—Cargo 22,420 Dollars, 187<sup>lb</sup> wt. of Plate, 1051 Hhds. Sugar, &c. &c. The Cash was taken out & carried to Egg Harbor. Two of the Prizes are arrived one at Dartm<sup>o</sup> the other at C. Ann.

15. Yesterday Cap<sup>t</sup> Biddle in a Continental Brig the And<sup>w</sup> Doria arrived at Newport. Fourteen days before he took two Transport Ships from Greenock each 100 Scotch Troops, part of 33 sail with 3000 Scotch Troops, bound for Boston. He bro't them to Nantucket Sholes, where he was chased. He left them hav<sup>s</sup> taken out & bro't into Newp<sup>t</sup> about 40 Captives.

16. Ldsdy. at Dighton. I preached A. M. on 1 Pet. i, 13. P. M. Isai. li, i, and baptized Violet a Negro Child of Quaum & Dutchess.

17. Anniversary of Battle at Bunkers Hill.

18. Thursdy 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. a body of Continental Troops &c from Boston landed on *Pettick's Island & Hull*, near 600 Men at each place; and a like Number of the Militia from the neighboring Towns with a Detatchm<sup>t</sup> from the Train & some field pieces took post at Moon Isl'd, Hoffs Neck, & Pt. Alderton. . . .

19. A Transport with the Highlanders anchored at Nantasket, not knowing &c. Our Privateers took her. They could scarcely believe they were taken till they had come to Town. This Week arrived at Newp<sup>t</sup> a Cont. Merch<sup>t</sup> Vessel from France with perhaps 15 Tons of Powder & Goods Value £40,000 sterlg. The Merchant says he was assured by the French Secret<sup>y</sup> of State for the American Departm<sup>t</sup> that we should have all supplies of Arms, Milit<sup>y</sup> Stores & Merchandise we desired: & that France wished for nothing more than our Declaration of Independency.

This day I saw a hand bill, N. Y. 8 June—Intelligence from Canada. Col. Beadle with 200 men fell into the Enèmys hands except himself & 18. That Major Sherburn & a Detatchm<sup>t</sup> also fell into their hands. Gen. Arnold went after them with 180 & soon



reinforced with 1500. It is said an Engag<sup>t</sup> ensued, & the whole body of the Enemy, consisting of a p<sup>t</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> or Kings Reg<sup>t</sup> stationed at Lake Erie, Canadians & Indians about 700 Men were taken.

20. Virginia having resolved Independency & published it in a solemn Manner at the Capitol; have written Circular Letters to all the Colonies recommending it to them to do the same.

Maryl<sup>d</sup> tho' they don't instruct their Delegates to vote for Independency—yet are firm in the Cause of Liberty—and on May abolished Prayers for the King except the second Collect in the Communion Service.

The Congress have voted *Thirty Thousand* new Troops from Pensylv<sup>a</sup> to N. England inclusive. On this Territory are about Two Thirds of the Whites in the United Colonies. Of these 6000 for Canada, 13000 for N. York, the rest about Philad<sup>a</sup> & for a flying Camp. . . . .

21. For several days has been circulating in a Handbill the following Letter to the Convention of the City of N. York.

“PHILAD<sup>a</sup> June 11<sup>th</sup> 1776.

“GENTLEMEN

The Congress have this day received Advice, & are fully convinced, that it is the Design of Gen. Howe to make an Attack upon the City of New York as soon as possible; the Attack they have Reason to believe will be made within ten days; I am therefore most earnestly to request you, by Order of Congress, to call forth your Militia, as requested in my Letter of the fourth Instant, & to forward them with all Dispatch to the City of New York; and that you direct that they march in Companies, or any other way that will hasten their Arrival there. The important day is at hand that will decide not only the fate of the City of N. York, but in all probability of the whole Province. On such an Occasion there is no necessity to use arguments with Americans; their feelings I well know will prompt them to their duty, and the sacredness of the Cause will urge them to the field. The greatest exertions of Vigor & Expedition are requisite to prevent our Enemies from getting possession of that City; I must therefore again most earnestly request you *in the Name, & by the Authority of Congress*, to send forward the Militia, agreeable to the Requisition of Congress, and that you will do it with all the Dispatch which the infinite Importance of the Cause demands.

I have the honor to be, Gentlemen  
Your most obedient, humble servant  
JOHN HANCOCK, President.”

To the Convention &  
N. York.

It is said the same hath been sent to Connecticutt. So that all the Country is in Motion.

23. Ldsday. I preached at Bristol, A. M. on Isai. liii, 5, & administered the Lords Supper to perhaps 50 Communicants, of which two were of my own Chh. in Newport. P. M. Ps. 36, 7 and baptized two Infants, Phebes, viz Phebe the D. of Seabury Manchester, and Phebe the D. of Joseph Wardell.

24. Returned to Dighton. Our Affairs not prosperous in Canada. News of Defeats. About ninety seven Captives Scotch Highlanders brought to Taunton.

25. Visited Deacon Sayer yet alive.

26. Major Sherburn was at N. York last Friday or Sat<sup>y</sup>. Informs that our Prisoners are given up & Hostages taken. Gen. Arnold in a Letter from Montreal dated 28<sup>th</sup> May says he was that "Morn<sup>g</sup> returned from an Expedition fifteen Leagues above this at a place called St. Annes, where *we have lately had near 500 of our Men made Prisoners.*"

27. A Gentleman from N. York says that perhaps 3 W. ago was intercepted a Packet of Letters sent from on board the Asia to some select Friends of Gov<sup>t</sup> in the City, advising their Removal, & that Gen. Howe from Halifax was to be joyned by Gen. Clinton from N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> and with all their conjoyned Forces drawn together to attack N. York. This with other Advices the Found<sup>a</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Hancocks Letter.

Flying News of another Defeat in Canada. There were 300 of the Enemy entrenching about the 3 Rivers or &c. Gen. Syllivan sent 2000 to dislodge them. It is said that Gen. Thompson & about fourty are captivated or slain, & the rest put to flight. Gen. Thomas, an excellent Officer, lately died of the small pox in Canada. —It is also said 15 Transports are arrived at N. York last Sat<sup>y</sup> or since & landed 300 at the Watering place, & that we had sent a party to drive them off.

28. By ——— who left N. York last Saturday we learn that a Plot there was lately discovered, and the Mayor of the City, David Matthews, Esq. & a number of others were seized and taken into Custody. The Plot was to blow up the Magazine, assassinate G. Washington & a number of capital Characters in the Army, pull up Kingsbridge, set fire to the City and give signals to the Kings Fleet & Army for Landing & taking possession. Wonderful that God in his Providence should discover it.

The Accounts from Canada are very disagreeable.

. . . About the middle of May there came down from the Lakes

Erie &c a body of about 550 being 100 Canadians, & 400 Indians led on by Cap<sup>t</sup> ——— and about fourty Regulars of the interior Garrisons. We had 400 under Col. Butterfield stationed at St. Anns about 45 Miles above Montreal. The French & Indians attacked them, & Col. Butterfield & his 400 fell into their hands, Major Sherburn was sent with 100 to strengthen Col. Butterfield, not knowing what had happened. He had arrived within about 5 M. of St. Anns, when in passing the Cedars he was attacked by this body of Indians & Canadians on I think 16<sup>th</sup> May being the day after Butterfields Surrendery. They fought an hour & fourty Minutes 100 against 400, but at length were overpowered having lost about one quarter of their Men killed. The Indians scalped the dead & wounded, & treated the prisoners cruelly, being particularly enraged because in the fight we had killed the Sachem or a chief Warrior of the Senecas. A few days after, Gen. Arnold with about 900 or 1000 Men came forward; but when he approached he received Inform<sup>a</sup> that in case he attacked them, the Indians had prepared to tomahawk the prisoners and spread abroad in the Wilderness. So that no valuable End could be answered by the Generals proceeding; & proceeding ensured a Scene of savage Barbarity upon 500 of our Brethren, who were ignominiously pinioned & secure by about 500 of the Enemy. He therefore settled a Cartel for Exchange of Prisoners & gave Hostages; & so all our Men, except perhaps 7 or 8 were delivered up & returned to us.

The other shameful defeat was at trois Rivieres. . . . Gen. Thompson & fourty Men taken, & we have 750 more missing. Our Army in Canada are one half sick of the small pox.

We have certain News that the fleet sailed from Hallifax on 9<sup>th</sup> of June. They have had no great Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> except about three hundred from the W. Indies blown off the Coast. No foreign Troops arrived. They left about seven hundred at Halifax. They were about 170 [130] sail carrying about *Eleven Thousand* Troops —& were said to be bound for Boston or N. York. [This News came to Newburyp<sup>t</sup> 25<sup>th</sup> Instant.]

Last Lordsday 12 or 13 sail were laying off and on before Boston Harbor; & Wednesday another fleet was seen off Cape Ann. By Halifax papers London News to 19<sup>th</sup> April.

29. Went to Newport. And

30. Lordsday I preached there A.M. Heb. xi, 27. P.M. Jn<sup>o</sup> xiv, 21.



## July

2. Visited Cap<sup>t</sup> Church. Read a pamphlet by D<sup>r</sup> Price of London on Liberty & the American War; for which he received the freedom of the City of London in a Gold Box of 50 Guineas.

3. News that the Halifax Fleet arrived at the Hook, N. York, Thursday & Friday last 27 & 28 ult.

4. The Conspiracy at N. York detected Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> ult. and that Night or I o'Clock next Morning the Mayor of the City, David Matthews Esq. taken into Custody by Gen. Washington. Last Friday 28<sup>th</sup> a Private one Tho. Hickey was executed at N. York for this Conspiracy. The Mayor received £140 of Gov<sup>r</sup> Tryon & advanced it to a Gunsmith to procure Arms—he also gave monies to Soldiers &c.

This Morn<sup>g</sup> or last Eve<sup>g</sup> a Vessel arrived here (Newp<sup>t</sup>) from N. York, havg left it on Monday or 1st Inst. 3 o'Clock P.M. Says 4 Gent. had been sent to view & counted about 130 sail—that they approached the Shore on L. Isld, & our pple fired upon them.

Our Forces extraord<sup>y</sup> are 7000 from Connecticutt, 3000 from Jersey & the Militia of the Province of N. York, besides the original Army at N. York of perhaps 10,000. So that I judge we must be *Thirty Thousand*, at & about the City. [Reckoned too high.]

Last Sat<sup>y</sup> 10 or 12 ships hovering off Boston, sailed. It is said they were notified by Mrs. Deblois & a Parole Officer who took a sail together. [Returned.]

5. I preached my sacramental Lecture.

6. About 130 sail arrived at N. York last Saturday. Saw a Letter from the Congress of 29 June, which says the *Question on Independency* was to come on last Monday or 1st Instant—& after that a Confederation.

7. Ldsday. A.M. at Newport I preached on Jn<sup>o</sup> iii, 14, 15, & administered the Lds. Supper to 30 Communicants. P.M. M<sup>r</sup> Ely preached on Joel ——— Then I baptized 3 Children, Tho. son of R<sup>d</sup> Simpson, Sarah D. of Benj<sup>a</sup> Sayer, & Elizabeth D. of William Downing.

8. M<sup>r</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup> Stevens, Jun<sup>r</sup> is from N<sup>o</sup> Carol. He got to Wilmington the day after G. Clinton sailed or about 30 May. He dined with G. Lee about 15 M. this side Wilmington going for Charlestown. M<sup>r</sup> Stevens has journeyd thro' & seen the whole spirit from Wilmington thither. Independency, he says, is high everywhere, especially in Virginia.

Mr Ellery's Letter from the Congress dated 29<sup>th</sup> June says the Question of Independency was to be agitated in Congress on Mond<sup>y</sup> 1<sup>st</sup> July—which determined, a plan of Confederacy was to be next formed. He says a Letter of 4<sup>th</sup> June from Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> from Presid<sup>t</sup> Rutledge & Gen. Armstrong advises that Gen. Clinton's fleet was there before Charlestown.—God preserve that place.

A flying report that a Body of Kings Troops landed on Staten Isld & were repulsed. A Gentleman left New Haven 6<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> & arrived here at Newp<sup>t</sup> last Evening—says a Vessel arrived there on fryday 5<sup>th</sup> from N. York & bro't News that the Congress at Philadelphia had declared Independency last Wednesday, viz 3<sup>d</sup> July. Doubtful.

Three Judges, or Examiners alone & without a Clerk, are trying the Criminals of the Conspiracy at N. York. The Prisoners are under a double Guard. The 23<sup>d</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> ult. 34 Conspirators taken up.

Our Army in Canada is retreated to Isle au Noix 15 Miles this side S<sup>t</sup> Johns.

At IX o'Clock this Morning a Man from New-London confirms the news of Independency : & says, 2000 of the Enemy seemed to be landing at ElizaT<sup>o</sup> Pt. and Gen. Putnam appearing at the P<sup>t</sup> with 4000, an Action ensued & the Enemy repulsed. Doubtful.

10. There are thirty Nine Canon mounted at the three Forts at Newport, as Col. Richmond tells me. Report 2 grand prizes carried into Boston : one of 400 Hhds Sugar.

12. Returned to Dighton. Reading Sir Jn<sup>o</sup> Floyer on the Prophesies & Writings of Esdras.

13. Mr. Channing returned from Newp<sup>t</sup> & bro't the Congresses Declaration of INDEPENDENCY dated at Philad<sup>a</sup> the fourth day of July Instant. This I read at Noon, & for the first time reallized Independency. Thus the CONGRESS have tied a Gordian Knot, which the Parl<sup>t</sup> will find they can neither cut, nor untie. The *thirteen united Colonies* now rise into an *Independant Republic* among the Kingdoms, States & Empires on Earth. May the Supreme & Omnipotent Lord of the Monarchical Republic of the immense Universe, shower down his Blessings upon it, & ever keep it under his holy Protection ! And have I lived to see such an important & astonishing Revolution ? Scotch Policy transfused thro' the collective Body of the Ruling Powers in Great Britain ; and their violent, oppressive & haughty Measures have weaned

& alienated the affections of three Millions of people, & dismembered them from a once beloved Parent State. Cursed be that arbitrary Policy! let it never poison the United States of America! . . . .

The Fleet from Halifax arrived at Sandy Hook the last of June 11<sup>th</sup> sail & by the 8<sup>th</sup> July not exceeding 130 sail. Monday 1<sup>st</sup> Inst. it came up into Yake's Bay below the Narrows: Tuesday several ships came too at the Watering place: Wednesday more followed: and by Thursday Noon the whole fleet was at anchor from Kill van Kull to Simonson's ferry, on the East side of Staten Isld. The *Asia* bro't up the Rear of the fleet, and in the Narrows was fired at from a small Battery on Long Isld., which Compliment was returned by about fourty 24 pounders.—Part of the Army is encamped now (July 8) on Staten Isld. As soon as the Troops landed, they paraded the North shore, & on Wednesday 3<sup>rd</sup> Morning made their appearance near Eliza To. P<sup>l</sup> . . . but the Country being soon alarmed they retreated, took up the floor of the Draw-bridge in the salt meadows & immed<sup>y</sup> threw up some Works.

It is said that between 7 and Ten Thousand Troops landed at Staten Isld 2<sup>d</sup> Inst.—and that next day arrived the European Fleet of 10,000.

14. Ldsday at Dighton I preached A.M. on 1 Jno. 1, 7. P.M. Gal. vi. 19. And after Meeting attended a Funeral & preached on Job. xiv, 2.

15. Last Thursday & friday 26 Tories<sup>1</sup> were taken up at Newport & required to sign the Test prescribed by the Assembly. All but two refused.

<sup>1</sup> Their names are given in a separate memorandum by Dr. Stiles:

|                          |                        |
|--------------------------|------------------------|
| Gov. Wanton              | Sam <sup>l</sup> Bours |
| Col. Jo. do. removed     | Ed. Thurston           |
| Wm. do.                  | S. Goldw.              |
| Isaac Layton             | Jno. Wood              |
| Jno. Miller              | Mr. Moffat             |
| Thos. Wickham            | Akers Sisson           |
| Dr. Hunter }             | Jno Grellia signed     |
| Dr. Haliburton } removed | Thos. Robinson Quaker  |
| Jas. Clark               | —— Goddard             |
| Jno. Watson              | Thos. Cranston         |
| Wm. Cole                 | St. Ayrault            |
| Ed. Mumford              | Minshall signed        |
| Jas. Honyman excused     | St. Deblois            |



16. M<sup>r</sup> Manning, Presid<sup>t</sup> of the Baptist College, is a Tory, affecting Neutrality. He never prayed for the Congress or Success to our Army, till Gen. Washington returning from Boston last Spring being at Providence on Lordsday he went to M<sup>r</sup> Mannings Meeting—then for the first time he prayed for the Congress & Army. But he & most of the Heads of the Baptists especially Ministers thro' the Continent are cool in this Cause, if not rather wishing the Kings side Victory. This is witnessed by the Baptist Congress at Phil<sup>a</sup> the fall before last to enter an Accus<sup>a</sup> of Massachusetts to the Gen. Congress. But M<sup>r</sup> Manning has particul<sup>r</sup> been against his Country in heart. And it hath sometimes come out. Once in a large Company at Rehoboth he said openly that there was not a Member of the Congress but might be bo't—that the whole Congress might be bought. Now he knew the Parl<sup>t</sup> had determined to buy them. Inductively therefore he gave up the American Cause as sold. And he did this, I am told by one that heard him at the Time, with a sneering Triumph. Lately he was at Gov. Cooke's at Providence and making some sneering Reflexions on the public affairs—he suggested that this was a Presbyterian War—that the Congregationalists at the northward had prevailed upon the Chhmen to the Southward to joyn them—& that it was worth considering who (viz Baptists) would be crushed between them both, if they overcome. This is the heart of the bigotted Baptist Politicians.

17. By a vessel just arrived here from N. York we learn that last Friday (12<sup>th</sup> Inst) two Men o' War viz a forty Gun ship & a 28 G. D<sup>o</sup> with 3 Tenders, boldly passed the City up North River 15 M. to Taupon Bay: that our Batteries from the City & on both sides of River played upon them with great fury as they passed. The Ships returned the fire. This is unexpected; I had tho't no Ships could have passed without being sunk. What is their Design? The Ships to become Transports & so land the Men above the City? or what. It is said also that the whole Fleet are come within 2½ Miles of the City.

This day was a Regimental Muster at Berkley<sup>1</sup> in the County of Bristol, Mass. Bay. I was present. Brigadier Godfry and the rest of the Field Officers reviewed 5 Companies, or the part of the Regt. assembled there. They are well-limbed, brave Men. I am told the likeliest Men are left behind, & not in the Army. But all

<sup>1</sup> The town directly east of Dighton, across Taunton river.

are however ready to start. There is a Levy of 5 or 6000 Men now making in Massachusetts; besides this, one Quarter of the Men that are left are now drafting for *Minute Men*, to stand ready to start off for Boston or elsewhere. The fencible Men in Massachusetts may be Ninety Thousand. Of these about Two Thirds are Militia; of which perhaps twenty thousand are in the Service—and the Quarter Minute Men may form a Body of Ten or Twelve Thousand more. To day they beat up for Volunteers both for the Levy, & for the Min. Men. One whole Company turned out as Volunteers for Minute Men. There was great Spirit visible. At the Request of the Field Officers I prayed with the Regiment.

18. A body of 500 Carpenters are enlisting to go to Crownp<sup>t</sup> & build floating Batteries & Gallies upon Lake Champlain. The Wages high, 33 Dollars per M<sup>n</sup>. One Company enlisted in two Days. The whole Continent is all alive. About *One Hundred Thousand* Men in the American Army & employed in military & naval Services. It is said we have 35 Thousand at N. York. If there are Two Million Souls in the Thirteen United Colonies,<sup>1</sup> there may be half a Million fencible Men, of which it should seem one fifth are now actually called forth into the Defence of their Country.

The Congress last Fall levied Three Million of Dollars upon 12 Colonies from S<sup>c</sup> Carolina to N. Hamp. inclusive—"according to the Number of Inhabitants of all ages including Negroes & Mulattoes in each Colony." In this Levy they assigned 248 Th. to Connecticut, which from actual Numer<sup>a</sup> in 1774 had 196 Th. souls or say about 200 Thousd. They levy the same sums on N. York & the 2 Carolinas—thereby doubtless estimating their Inhabitants equal. The Dollars about a fifth more than the Inhabitants. If this Rule holds, the Congress estimated the Total of Inhab. Blacks & Whites *Two Million & a half* or under. From Pensylv<sup>a</sup> to the northward inclusive the Levy was One Mill. & 700 Th. Doll. nearly. This implies, under a Reduction of one fifth, about One Mill. 300 Th. Inhabitants. And I judge there are so many, exclusive of Negroes of which there may be fewer than Thirty Thousd. Souls on this Territory, which is the least populated with Blacks. Hence there may be North of the begin<sup>g</sup> of 40<sup>th</sup> deg. of Lat. about 500 Thousd. Men fit to bear Arms, Whites.

About one Mill. 300 Doll. are levied to the Southward, implying about a Mill. Inhabitants. Of these perhaps may be 400 Th. or

<sup>1</sup> The best estimates give a little over 2,500,000 population at this date.

more nearly half a Mill. Negroes : Leaving half a Mill. Souls 'or perhaps 150 Th. fencible Men Whites on that Territory. In this severe and momentous Conflict there may be 600 Th. fighting Men Whites in the thirteen United States. And doubtless one sixth or one fifth of the Men are called into Service—besides one Quarter of the Residue standing equipt for duty in a Moment's Warning. For this quarter Minute Men is a continental Regulation. And tho' in the northern Colonies it respects only the Militia (which is not above one seventh of the souls) yet at the southward it respects all the Whites to even more than a quarter part, on account of the Negroes, which the Kings Troops & Emissaries are prompting to butcher their Masters & Families. What an arduous Exertion—what a wonderful Labour is excited & going forward in the Colonies ? Designed doubtless by Heaven to subserve very great Purposes !

19. It is reported that Ld. Howe, the Admiral, is arrived at N. York with two Ships only ; the Fleet of Hessian & foreign Troops not yet come forward. And that he sent a flag on shore, with a Letter directed " To Geo. Washington Esq." The Flag & Letter was returned with this answer that no such Man was Known in the Camp. Doubtful—chiefly because, an Admiral of the first Command would have with him more than 2 ships. It is however also said ; that Ld. Howe was gone to the Congress, & had said he was sorry he had not arrived before the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independence. [Nothing.]

20. At Noon I read the Boston last Monday & Thursday Prints. A general Inoculation takes place in Boston, & is permitted by the Assembly in every County Town. Our enemies have been so malicious as to spread the small pox in our Army, & by their Marches there is the utmost prospect of its spreading generally thro' New England.

Lord Howe in a large Man o' War is certainly come over. A Vessel is arrived at Boston from St. Peters near Newfoundland. In her passage she was taken by this Man o' War & examined and dismissed—being told that the Trade with the French was illicit, yet as Ld. Howe was on board, & was come over rather to make Peace than for War, his Ldship dismissed her.

A Vessel from Halifax also advises that this ship put into Halifax, & Ld. Howe sent a Barge on shore to be informed where his Brother Gen. How & the Fleet were ? And learning they were gone to N. York, the Ship immed<sup>y</sup> sailed thither. Again off Nantucket she met



with a Nantucket Whaleman return<sup>d</sup> from Falkld. Islds, and telling them Ld. Howe was on board dismissed her. In the York News I also find that on the friday last week, soon after the Ships had passed the City thro' a heavy firing, a Ship came in there with a white flag, which they supposed bro't Ld. Howe. We have also a Report that upon his Arrival he sent a flag on shore with a Letter to George Washington Esq, which was returned as no such person could be found.

Ld. Howe is therefore come. And his coming alone without the Fleet & Transports, and his dismissing the 2 Vessels with pacific Intimations, indicates that the King & Parl<sup>t</sup> have at length opened their Eyes, tho' too late. If G. Britain will recognize the Independency of the United States, & offer an Alliance, a Pacification may take place ; not otherwise. But Ld. Howe cannot be invested with powers adequate to such a Negotiation.

A gentleman from N. York says he was told by the Commissary General there, that on the last Ldsday he delivered out Provisions for *forty thousand* 700 Men. A vast Army ! And Gen. Washington has ordered the 3 Reg<sup>ts</sup> at Boston for N. York immediately, & some of them began their March yesterday, as I am told by a Gentleman who left Boston yesterday.

The Vote for Indep<sup>y</sup> passed in Congress the second day of July Instant. I read in the Prints that the Declar<sup>n</sup> of Indep<sup>y</sup> was published by the Assembly of the Committee of Conference of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> at the Statehouse in Philadelphia. And the Kings Arms were immed<sup>y</sup> taken down & burnt before the Statehouse. It was also published at N. York at the head of all the Brigades of the Army — & immed<sup>y</sup> the Kings Arms were taken down, and also the Kings Equestrian Statue in that City, & all publicly burnt in the City of N. York. And the day before yesterday it was published at the Statehouse in Boston ; & immed<sup>y</sup> the Kings Arms were taken down there, & all the Tory signs, & all committed to the Flames before the Statehouse. What Indignity has the King brot upon himself in these Colonies, which once gloried in the Sovereigns of the House of Brunswick !

21. Ldsday. I preached at Dighton A.M. on Ps. xxxiv, 18. P.M. Rom. xiv, 17, 18. Reading Sir Peter Kings Primitive Churches.

22. We have a List of British Men o' War, sixty ships on the American Station, above 40 of which are 20 Guns up to 70 ; and 12

are 50 & upwards. The Declaration of Independency has been published at :

|              |         |                                |
|--------------|---------|--------------------------------|
| Philadelphia | July 8, | At night the Kings Arms burnt. |
| New York     | . 10    |                                |
| Williamsburg | . 18    |                                |
| Boston       | . 18    |                                |
| Newport      | . 20    |                                |
| Providence   | . 25    |                                |

Maryland Convention have voted 3405 Men to joyn in the *flying Camp* of Ten Thousand, to act in the middle Department from thence to N. York inclusive, accord<sup>g</sup> to Congress. This done 25 June. But the Exigency of the Times requiring it, the Congress on 4<sup>th</sup> July recommended & the Committee of Safety of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> requested the whole Body of the Militia in Pensylv<sup>a</sup> to march with the utmost Expedition to Trenton & Brunswick in N. Jersey & continue in service till the fly<sup>g</sup> Camp 10 Th. be formed. Two Brig. Generals are appointed to command *the Forces in Pensylv<sup>a</sup>* consist<sup>g</sup> of *fifty three Battalions*.

23. A Flag is sent into Newport Rh. Isld. where the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independ. was proclaimed last Sat<sup>y</sup>.

24. M<sup>r</sup> Channing is returned from the Assembly at Newport, and brings the Papers: in one of which of 18<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> it is said "There are now about Ten Thousd. Persons under Inoculation in & about Boston." Doubtful. . . .

"STATE of RHODE ISLAND and PROV. PLANTA.  
IN GENERAL ASSEMBLY, July session, 1776.

This Gen. Assembly tak<sup>g</sup> into the most serious Consider<sup>a</sup> the Resolution of the Most Honorable the GENERAL CONGRESS of the UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, of the 4<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> declaring the said STATES FREE and INDEPENDENT STATES, do approve the said Resolution; and do most solemnly engage that we will support the said General Congress, in the said Resolution with our Lives & Fortunes."

A true Copy.

Witness

HENRY WARD Secr<sup>y</sup>.

At the same Time they enacted that the Stile & Title of this Government, shall be "*The STATE of Rh. Isld. & Prov. Plantations.*" Also another Act—"that, if any Person within this State, shall under Pretence of *Preaching* or *praying*, or in any Way or manner whatever *acknowledge* or *declare* the *said King* (of G. Brit.) to be our rightful Lord & Sovereign, or shall pray for the Success of his Arms, or that he may vanquish or overcome all his Enemies, shall be deemed guilty of a high Misdemeanour, & shall therefore be presented, by the G. Jury of the C<sup>o</sup> where the Offence shall be committed, to the

Sup. Court of the same C<sup>o</sup> ; and upon Conviction thereof shall forfeit & pay, as a fine to & for the Use of this State the sum of One hundred pounds L. M. & pay all costs of Prosecution ; & shall stand committed to Goal until the same be satisfied." Extr<sup>a</sup> fr. Newp<sup>t</sup> Mercury 22<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>.

This was passed on Sat<sup>r</sup> last. And instantly thereon the People of the Chh. of England in Newport cried out of Persecution, went and removed all their Prayer Books &c & shut up the Church ; and had no Service in it last Lordsday, tho' M<sup>r</sup> Bisset their Parson was well & walking the Streets.

The Test has been addressed to about 90 Tories in Newport. Most of them refused, & thereupon the special Assembly was called last Week. They did not send for the Tories again—but prepared a Vote for their Rustication or being removed into the interior parts of the Colony—this had passed tho' the Lower House, & was going to the Upper, when the Tories came too & offered to subscribe, which was done immed<sup>y</sup> by all but *Eleven* who are ordered off. Some principal Gentleman as the Malbones &c. petitioned in favor of some of their Friends included in the 11 representing that they were peaceable, did not intermeddle &c.—this was Tories vouching for Tories—the House instead of receiving it, said this gave reason to suspect the Petitioners, & ordered them before them, & tendered the Test, which they subscribed & were dismissed sick of their foolish Manoeuvre. The Tory Interest has received a great Shock at Newport.

Among those to whom the Test had been tendered before, were 3 Ministers in Newport. Elder Maxsen an aged Sabb. Baptist a pious & inoffensive Man, whom I never heard to be a Tory, but it seems his honest Mind was not strong eno' to digest this Revolution. He came before the Assembly & they excused him for his Age.<sup>1</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Rusmeyer the Moravian Minister declined the Test & took the Affirmation that his Conscience was against War. Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Kelly a young Baptist Minister—had all along been persuaded that the Kings Troops would prevail, not a little affected with Baptist Politics, carried about with him an Air of ingenious sly Prudence, prayed all along for the King & particul<sup>r</sup> on the Fast-day, & meant to conduct so as to fall in with the prevailing side, & so as to have laid up some Merit in Case the King prevailed. His Character is otherwise exceeding good & amiable. I could

<sup>1</sup> See also this Diary, Oct. 16, 1771. He died on March 2, 1778, aged 65 years. See *R. I. Hist. Magazine*, vii, 233.



have wished that they had let these 3 Ministers alone : because I am persuaded they would have given no Offence after the Act prohibiting praying for the King—and neither of them were in the least active or dangerous. M<sup>r</sup> Kelly took the Affirmation & dishonored himself by declaring against *the Unlawfulness of taking up Arms* in all Cases—tho' he said if any was lawful, the present American War was so ; and that he could pray for success to the Americans. He is the first Baptist in N. England that ever declared ag<sup>t</sup> the Unlawfulness of Arms—and perhaps is the only Man in the World, that *can pray for Success to Arms, while he believes their Unlawfulness*. The Inconsistency was noticed to him by the Assembly. The next day, being Ldsday last, he prayed heartily for the Congress & our Army & their Success.

On a question about send<sup>g</sup> for M<sup>r</sup> Bisset the Chh. Minister, it was considered that he had been sufficiently handled last Winter by Gen. Lee. The other Ministers M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins a Congregationalist & M<sup>r</sup> Thurston a Baptist not suspected. M<sup>r</sup> Tauro the Jew Priest excused because a Foreigner.

25. For 2 days we have a Report that Gen. Lee has defeated Gen. Clinton at Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. . . .

Gov. Franklin is removed to Wallingford.

Gov. Eden of Maryland has escaped on board the Fowey Man o'War on 23 June by permission of the Mary<sup>l<sup>d</sup></sup> Committee of Safety. On this Occasion the Virginia Convention wrote to Mary<sup>l<sup>d</sup></sup> 31 May & strongly remonstrated against it, but without Effect. There was a Relict of proprietary Interest prevailing there—which now being done away Maryland came into Independency.

A Letter dated Cape Fear 30 May says “G. Clinton with *three Thousand* men, continue encamped near Fort Johnston—their Baggage is going &c.” This shews Clinton had 3000 landed in N<sup>o</sup> Carolina. They sailed that day in about 50 sail.

In a N. York Thursday paper of 4<sup>th</sup> July—“The Convention of Maryland have in Effect declared for Independance, so that N. York is likely to be the last to do it, of the 13 Colonies.” I am told that as the N. York Congress had dissolved itself to make room for a Convention then electing for forming Government, the New York Delegates in Congress were not empowered to vote, and so by the Congress were excused from voting on the Question of Independency :—and that all the rest of the Colonies were unanimous.



When the Ratification of Independency was voted in the Assembly at Rh. Isld. last Saturday there was but one vote against it—and he was expelled the House for refusing the Test.

From 7<sup>th</sup> June to 9<sup>th</sup> a fifty Gun ship & about thirty Transports had got within the Bar at Charlest<sup>d</sup> & the Remainder were getting. They sent a flag on shore & demanded the Town, but were answered, No. Generals Lee & Howe arrived at Charlestown.

Before Gov. Eden left Maryland, or however before 25 June a new Assembly was called. . . . The People & their Delegates in Congress were warm for Liberty—and yet they were held back & not impowered to vote on Independency. But the Proprietary Influence being surmounted both in Maryland & Pensylv<sup>a</sup> both those Provinces immed<sup>y</sup> instructed their Delegates in Congress to concur in Independency.

It is said a Plot is discovered at Albany for blowing up the Magazine there &c.

Upon the Dissolution of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Assembly, the Committee of Safety convoked a Conference of Deputies chosen expressly for forming a new Government. The following Declar<sup>a</sup> is more sensible & spirited than that of the Congress. . . .

26. Another Transport lately came to and anchored at Nantasket before she found her Mistake. She was taken by a Boat from our Troops at Hull where we have about 700 Men 3 Eighteen p<sup>o</sup> several lesser Canon & one 32 pounder. She has been from Europe eleven Months, lost a Mast in a Gale & was driven off to the W. Indies & after refitting at Jamaica proceeded hither & arrived without knowing the Evacuation of Boston. She has 1700 Bbs. of Pork & 400 Firkins of Butter.

The London Prints of 4<sup>th</sup> May mention the Evacu<sup>a</sup> of B<sup>o</sup> by G. Howe, it is said “by Orders from home.” But I doubt this.

#### EXTR. LETT. FR. PORTSM<sup>o</sup> MAY 2.

. . . . . “The Guards that came to this place are all on board the Transports, and the Transports with the Hessian Troops on board are all dropt down to S<sup>t</sup> Helens in Comp<sup>a</sup> with the Men o’War which with the Frigates & Transports make a fleet of about 100 sail. They only wait for a fair Wind.”

#### ANOTHER FR. SPITHEAD MAY 2.

“It is expected we shall sail to-morrow under the Command of Commodore Wm. Hotham—Preston, a 50 G. ship—. There are upwards of *one hundred* sail of Transports now here. We have on board 5 small Casks, & thirty chests of Spanish Dollars amounting to 35000*£* for pay<sup>g</sup> the Marine Troops at Boston.”

Remark 1. It is plain that the Hessian Troops were in England & ready to sail the beginning of May. 2. One hundred Transports may imply Ten Thousand Troops. 3. Tho' it seems inconsistent for Ld. Howe to come alone; yet it is not credible the Hessian Fleet was stopt. And therefore we may daily expect them. 4. If so, Ld. Howe's Pretence of Peace is all Delusion.

This Even<sup>g</sup> Mr. Channing received a Letter from his Father Ellery in the Gen. Congress dated at Philad<sup>a</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> July, with a Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Ledger 20 July. We have a Confirm<sup>a</sup> of the Success of our Forces at Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Carolina in a great Naval action which happened there on friday 28<sup>th</sup> June last. . . .

28. Ldsday At Dighton A.M. I preached on Eph. iv, 17, 18. P.M. Gal. ii, 20. and read a Proclamation for a Day of public Fasting & Humiliation thro' this State of the Massachusetts, published by the COUNCIL at the Desire of the Representatives & signed by 19 Councillors.

29. A Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Ellery<sup>1</sup> in Congress dated Philad<sup>a</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. Extract.

"Ld. Howe is arrived in the Eagle Man o'War. The Reinforc<sup>mt</sup> is not arrived & I hope will never arrive. His Ldship sent a Flag o' truce a few days ago with Letters to Gen. Washington directed "to George Washington Esq." which were not received because his proper Title was not given him: since that some others have been sent to him with a similar Superscription & were for the same Reason not received. After this a flag was sent to Amboy with Letters to all the late Governors S<sup>o</sup> of N. York inclos<sup>g</sup> written Declarations containing his & his Brother's (Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe) appoint<sup>mt</sup> as Commissioners to receive the Submission of the Colonies or private Persons & grant Pardons agreeable to the late act of the Brit. Parliament, and a number of Letters principally from *Friends* in London to *Friends* here placing the Character of the Howes in the most amiable point of View, & recommending Reconciliation with G. Britain. These Letters were all sent by the commanding Officer at Amboy to G. Washington, & were transmitted by him to Congress, and were opened & read, that part of them, I mean which related to our Affairs. Among the Letters were some to D<sup>r</sup> Franklin, one to the Farmer, and one to M<sup>r</sup> Stockton. D<sup>r</sup> Franklin was not in Congress when the Letters were bro't in, but was sent for. When he entered, his Letters were delivered to him sealed. He opened them, looked over them, and handed them to the President desiring him to read them. They were accordin<sup>g</sup> read to Congress & contained much the same Sentiments with those to *Friends*, as did that to M<sup>r</sup> Stockton, who is a Member of Congress, and who was treated and behaved in the same manner that D<sup>r</sup> Franklin did. As the *Farmer* is in the Jersey at the Head of his

<sup>1</sup> Hon. William Ellery (Harvard 1747), grandfather of the Rev. Dr. Wm. Ellery Channing.

Battalion, his Letter is kept sealed by the President until he shall return & receive it in Congress. The Letters to the late Governors & the Declarations are ordered to be printed to let the People see upon what Terms Reconciliation is proposed to them :—*Odi Danaos, etiam Dona ferentes* : but when what some People, Tories, may call the Olive-plant is handed to us at the point of the Bayonet, or is hurled to us from the Mouths of Canon, if possible I should more than hate it. The Truth is the Door is shut, & it would now be in vain, to talk of any sort of Alliance with Britain but a Commercial One. We have been driven into a Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independency & must forget our former Love for our British Brethren. The Sword must Determine our Quarrel. Our Repulse from Canada is disagreeable, but we must expect repeated Defeats. *The Road to Liberty, like the Road to Heaven is strewed with Thorns. Virtue lives in Exertion.* But thank Providence, altho' our Northern Army hath been unsuccessful, our Southern Forces under Gen. Lee have been successful. A Letter which Congress this day received by Express from him dated at Charlestown July 2<sup>d</sup> gives us a very agreeable acc<sup>o</sup> of a severe Repulse given to the fleet under Cap<sup>t</sup> Parker by our fort on Sullivans Island &c."

30. In June last died at Weathersfield M<sup>rs</sup> Smith Relict of Judge Smith of N. York, æt. 68. She was born in Norwich Old Engld. the Daughter of a Dissenting Minister there Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Scott—and M<sup>r</sup> Joseph Nicoll Scott was her Brother who pub. 2 Vol. of Sermons. Col. Elisha Williams of Weathersfield, formerly Rector of Yale College, being in Engld in 1751, was by D<sup>r</sup> Doddridge brot into an acquaintance with her & married & brot her to N. Engld. She was greatly addicted to Letters & Piety.<sup>1</sup> I was personally acquainted with her 1752. After Col. Williams Death she married M<sup>r</sup> Smith & lived at N. York, till his Death—and then removed to Weathersfield. . . .

31. This day I attended the Funeral of M<sup>rs</sup> Treby at Freetown. She was one of my Church and of the Refugees from Newport. She was born in Bristol & has often told me she remembered that venerable Man of God the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Lee the first Pastor of Bristol. She married at Newport, sat under the Min<sup>y</sup> of Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Clap & was received into his Church 1721. In the Division of the Chh. she was among Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Adam's Adherents in 1728, and continued an exemplary Professor till her Death 29<sup>th</sup> Instant æt. 92.<sup>2</sup> I preached her funeral sermon on Rev. xiv, 13. . . . Three Prizes are arrived at Providence since last Saturday—and one at Boston Ldsday.

<sup>1</sup> The Library of Yale University has a volume of her original hymns in manuscript.

<sup>2</sup> Born May 2, 1685.



August.

1. This is a day of FASTING through the State of Massach. Bay, by the Councils Proclamation. I preached at Dighton A.M. upon Amos iii, 2. P.M. 2 Chron. xiii, 18.

The London News is that 2<sup>d</sup> May lay at Portsm<sup>o</sup> a Fleet of above 100 Transp<sup>ts</sup> besides Men o' War, having Hessian Troops & ready to sail. Q. Where are they?

It is said that Gen. Burgoyne & about 30 Transp<sup>ts</sup> with 4000 Troops were in the Gulf of St. Laurence about 25<sup>th</sup> of May. [Another Acc<sup>o</sup> 10 Thousand Troops.]

M<sup>r</sup> Henry Bowers was at N York a fortnight ago, when he was told by the Commissary General that he had that day delivered out provisions for *forty four Th. Men*.

The Generals of principal Ability who command on each side, are

| Amer.           |                         | King's.        |
|-----------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Gen. Washington | New York                | Gen. Howe      |
| Gen. Lee        | S <sup>o</sup> Carolina | Gen. Clinton   |
| Gen. Gates      | Crownpoint              | Gen. Burgoyne. |

On Thursday 25<sup>th</sup> July the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independence was published at Noon at the Statehouse in Providence, when the Cadets & Light Infantry in 4 Divisions fired 13 Vollies, then the Artillery Comp<sup>a</sup> fired 13 Canon, and 13 Canon were fired at the Bridge, & the Ships Alfred & Columbus also fired 13 each. Entertainm<sup>t</sup> at 2 public Places, at each 13 patriotic Toasts.

2. The Prize brot into B<sup>n</sup> last Lordsday was a ship which sailed from Halifax about 9 days before in Comp<sup>a</sup> with some of the Hessians arrived there, & proceeding for New York. This is the first Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Arrival of the Hessian Troops.

3. Fifty sail of Transports were lately seen passing by Nantucket. More Hessians. . . .

5. Ld. Shelburne said in Parl<sup>t</sup> that in the "late War—we had at one Time no less that 350,000 Natives in actual Service,—and the whole Number we employed amounted to no less than 418,000 Men. Will any man say that our Manufactures stood still for want of hands, when our Ports increased full Two Millions annually, & when both our exports & imports exceeded anything known in former Times? Could we 13 years ago spare 350 Thousd. men for carrying on the Oper<sup>a</sup> of War, & carry on our Manufac<sup>t</sup> to an Extent never before known; & shall it be this day *gravely* con-



tended that we cannot raise a *fifth* part of the Number, without ruining our Manufactures, which Consider<sup>a</sup> obliges us to apply for assist<sup>a</sup> to two German states, as the only means of procuring our political Salvation?"

The Bishop of Carlisle & others in the house of Lords had alledged the necessity of employing foreigners—"your Country is small, said they, and insignificant in point of Numbers; the few hands you have are wanted at home, & should you employ them in War, your Country would be ruined; the *Plough & Loom* must instantly stand still." This Ld. Shelburne answered.

The Ministry, perhaps, foresaw, that if they raised the Army in England, the English would not so well fight the Amer. English, as foreigners would. The Scotch indeed would heartily engage, but it would not do to have the whole Army Scotch—it would be too odious: to blend all in general undistinguishable Confusion, & yet have an efficacious Army was the Object. But this political Management<sup>t</sup> convinces me that they dare not trust the *English Nation* at large, and therefore have kept the whole Matter as much as possible from their Attention. . . . .

The Convention of the *Commonwealth* of Virginia on 5 July reformed the Liturgy, expunged the Prayers for the King, & ordered them to be made for "the Magistrates of this Commonwealth."

Ld Dunmore is put to flight from Gwinn Isld. "The heavy Canonade from our Lines in Gloucester last Tuesday & Wednesday (9<sup>th</sup> & 10<sup>th</sup> July) obliged Ld Dunmore to withdraw his Troops & Ship<sup>e</sup> from Gwin's Island. His Ldship it is said received a Wound in his Leg or Thigh. The Men of War were hulled several Times & particularly the *Dunmore & Otter*, which last was obliged to be towed off in the greatest hurry. Their Flight from the Island was on Wednesday Evening (July 10) with precipit<sup>a</sup> & Confusion."

"A Battery of *two* 18 pounders was opened on the Enemy's fleet on Tuesday Morning (9 July) whilst another of *four* 9 pounders played on their Works & Camp at Gwinn's Isld. In a short time the whole fleet was forced to tow out of reach of the Battery; their fire ceased after a few rounds.—There were three Tenders—fell into our hands, one they set on fire, but our people boarded it and extinguished the flames. The Enemy burnt two small Vessels, & the Night followg. a very large Ship supposed to be the *Dunmore*, for she was very much damaged, havg. received four 18 p<sup>o</sup> shot thro' her sides & one double headed one thro' her stern, which raked

her. Her mate was killed, a Sailor had his Arm taken off, and Ld Dunmore had his Leg wounded by this Shot. The fleet has sailed from the Island & we are in quiet Possession of it.—We found 150 Graves and 12 dead negroes lying in open Air. The Roebuck was at the Mouth of Rappahanock. The Fowey & Otter did not chuse to come up to the Assist<sup>a</sup> of the Dunmore.—We did not lose a Man.” Lett. fr. W<sup>ms</sup>burg 13 July.

It is said the *Rose* Capt. Wallace is one of the Ships that passed N York 12 July. They lay at Haverstraw bay 29<sup>th</sup>. On 20 July Wallace was at his old Trade—“Landed a Party at Peeks Kill, set fire to a Wheatfield & burnt the house of M<sup>r</sup> John Lilly: a Number of the Militia were soon collected, who attacked & *killed seven of them* without any Loss on our side.”

Extr. Lett. dated F<sup>t</sup> George July 14<sup>th</sup> 1776.

“I never knew the fatigue of a Campaign until I arrived in Canada.—When G. Sullivan arrived in Canada, the Army was torn in pieces by Sickness & other unaccountable Occurrences, & a whole Reg<sup>t</sup> was not to be found together. Gen. Sullivan with his usual Activity & Alertness, collected together a *debilitated & dispirited Army*; *tried the strength of the Enemy, which were at least four to one*; performed an excellent Retreat altho’ there were many Difficulties, the Enemy at our heels, *Three Thousand Sick with the Small-pox*, those the most healthy like so many walking Apparitions, all our Baggage & Stores & Artill<sup>y</sup> to be removed, Officers as well as Men all employed in dragging Canon; our Battaus all moved up the Rapids six Miles, loaded, one hundred of which were towed by our poor wearied Men, while up to their Armpits in Water, & all performed in *a day & an half*. Our sick & baggage were safely landed at S<sup>t</sup> Johns & fr. thence were carried to Crownpoint, with the loss of only three Canon & they but poor ones.” . . .

Sat<sup>y</sup>. Night 27<sup>th</sup> July as the Cerberus lay about three Miles from Block Isld, Frank Gould of Newport swam from the ship to that Isld, whence in a Cedar Boat of 2 sails he came naked & alone & landed at the Fort on Brenton’s P<sup>t</sup>. Lordsday P.M. 28<sup>th</sup>. He is one of the Hands which Cap<sup>t</sup> Biddle put on board one of the Scotch Transports, which was retaken by the Cerberus. He says “there are about *forty Americans* on board said ship, her whole N<sup>o</sup> of Men being now about 160. She has taken on this station *Eighteen Vessels* mostly small sloops & schooners: 16 of which have been burnt; and that about a week ago (22<sup>d</sup>) they

spoke with seven sail of Transports with Scotch Troops on board, bound to New York, who had been into Boston Bay."—And that the "Americans are treated very ill on board the Cerberus for refusing to act against their Country."

Gen. Clinton's Armament arrived off Charlest<sup>o</sup> about beginning June. In Effect his Troops (say 4000) have 3 Times attempted a Descent on Sullivan's Isld & were repulsed. A Letter from Newbern dated June 24, says—"The Fleet about 50 sail in all, lying off Charlest<sup>o</sup> Bar, *a few Nights after their Arrival* there, they attempted Landing in a heavy Shower of Rain, and very dark, *on Sullivan's Isld*; but a Reg<sup>t</sup> called the *Raccoon Reg<sup>t</sup>* being stationed there *soon put them to flight*." Again on the day of the great Naval Action, 28<sup>th</sup> June, they landed there & were *twice repulsed*.

Princeton July 10 1776. "Last Night Nassau Hall was grandly illuminated and Independency proclaimed under a triple Volley of Musketry & universal Acclamation for the prosperity of the UNITED STATES."

N. York July 22. "G. Sullivan with the whole Northern Army is retreated to Ticonderoga, 165 Miles from Albany, & 265 from this City."

The Chh people at Newport, or a number of their principals, have met & agreed not to go to Meeting in any of the Raccoon Boxes, as they call the Meeting Houses of the Presb. Bapt. &c. nor indeed to joyn in any public Worship only the *Moravians & Quakers*. They are extremely mortified with their own Temerity in shutting up the Doors of their Chh, & evidently want to get them open again, but dont know how to effect it, without Reproach. It is said they have sent off M<sup>r</sup> Frank Malbone to get the Congress at Philad<sup>a</sup> to open their Chh—poor Souls! They may take their own Time for it, & do it at their Leisure. Nobody bid them shut their Chh, & I trust nobody will open it for them but themselves. They cry out, Persecution, & say the Presbyterians have now got their Will.

The Convention of Jersey have adopted the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Indepy. & have pledged their Lives & fortunes to the Congress towards supporting it.

6. Strange there should be such diff. accounts of our Army. M<sup>r</sup> G. of E. Greenw. returned from N. York last Week—says, he estimates but 4000 upon Long Isld 12,000 at N. York & Kingsbridge—and on Jersey shore and up the River, so as to make an



amount of about *Thirty Thousand* (inclusive flying Camp 10,000) for the *central or Grand Army at N. York*. Mr. S— estimates not above *Thirty five Thousand* to this Time. M<sup>r</sup> S— estimates *Ten Thousand* G. Howe bro't with him; and that about 6000 have since joyned him, for he says (tho' without Authority) a second large Fleet have arrived, but not Hessians: he judges Howe's Armament now *sixteen Thousand*: expects 12,000 Hessians, & also G. Clinton's 5000 from Carolina. And so counts upon an Army of above *Thirty Thousand* to act against us at New York. He expects they can & will land on L. Isld & thinks they may drive off our 4000 there, & so take Governor's Isld which is strongly fortified, & from thence & Long Isld make the City too hot for us.

On the Contrary I estimate them at first Landing on Staten Isld at 8 or 9000 in 130 Transpts & Navy.—that they may have been joyned with  $\frac{3}{4}$  of their Scotch Fleet perhaps 2000 more—that the Fleet at Portsm<sup>o</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> May of above 100 sail, may bring over Ten Thousand more chiefly Hessians. Forming an Army by the End of August of say *Twenty Thousand*—and perhaps G. Clinton's 5000 reduced to 3000.—Suppose then G. Howe's Host at its best Estate & greatest strength 25,000 Men. Let G. Washington's Host be 35,000, altho' it is said to be 50,000. And let equal Allow<sup>a</sup> & De-falc<sup>a</sup> be made on both sides for sick & uneffective men—say one quarter respectively for each. There will then remain two numerous & powerful Hosts, to decide the Rights, Liberty & Sovereignty of America.<sup>1</sup>

By persons who escaped from Halifax 13 June among other Intelligence, it was reported that "G. Burgoyne in the Isis Ship 50 G. arrived at Quebec with *four thousand* Troops from England, the middle of May." I recollect in a Journal published at Halifax of a Vessel from Quebec to Halifax that they met a Fleet of about *thirty Transports* in the Bay of St. Laurence, being G. Burgoyne & his Troops going to Quebec. Thirty sail & 4000 Troops agree. A Letter from London dated 9 April last published at N. Y. July 1st informs professedly from the best Sources—"Sir Peter Parker sailed last M<sup>o</sup> (March) from Cork with Ld. Cornwallis & *Three Thousd.* Men for C. Fear River in N<sup>o</sup> Car" where G. Clinton is gone fr. B<sup>o</sup> to take the Command with 1000 Stand of Arms from Vir-

<sup>1</sup> The official accounts now accessible show that the American forces in the New York Campaign amounted to about 28,400, and the British forces to about 31,000. See Johnston's *Campaign of 1776*, 125, 133.



ginia to put into the hands of the Scotchmen settled on the Head of that River : and when Cornwallis arrives they are either to invade S<sup>c</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> or go down to Virginia, to Petersburg [Williamsburg perhaps] or James River. Gen. Burgoyne sailed from Portsm<sup>o</sup> the 4<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> (Ap<sup>r</sup>) with Col. Philips & Capt. Foy (who commanded the Brit. Artillery at Minden) and *Three Thousand Brunswick Troops*, the 29<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> and Marines, in all to the amount of *Four Thousand Men* for Quebec ; *four Thousd.* more are soon to follow for the same place. If they can (next Summer) they are from Canada to penetrate into the Colonies over the Lakes. Next M<sup>o</sup> the *Hessian Troops & a few Reg<sup>t</sup> from Engld. & Ireld.* are to sail for Boston, when Howe is to leave that place, leaving a Garrison there & to go to L. Isld. with about *Twenty Thousd. Men for the Grand Army* : where, after making his Ground good, he is to subdue the Province of N. Y. & fr. thence thro' the Jersies penetrate to Philad<sup>a</sup>. —70 or 80 ships of War from 16 to 32 & 40 Guns are to keep continually cruising on the Coast to prevent any Supplies of arms, & all the Transp<sup>ts</sup> have about 12 or 14 Guns : but as the Men o' War are not above a quarter manned with Seamen, & the Transports have hardly Seamen eno' to navigate the Ships, it is imagined that many will be taken by the provincial Privateers.—Administr<sup>a</sup> depend a great deal on the Assistance they are to get from Traitors in N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> and from the *Scotchmen* in Maryland, Virg. & the Carolinas.—Indeed it appears now that America has no other alternative, but to submit to more than Turkish Slavery, or declare itself INDEPENDENT of G. Britain."—This Letter was friendly & good Information.

In a Letter from Quebec 13 May 1776 to Halifax & in Halifax paper of 4 June, is an account of the Siege from Nov. 15, 1775 to May 6, 1776. At Dec. 31 it is said "They stormed the upper & lower Town in 3 diff. parts at once.—We—beat them with the loss of their General &c killed on the spot, a number wounded & better than 400 taken prisoners. The whole Amo<sup>t</sup> of their Loss that day is computed at 700 killed, wounded & taken prisoners.—Our whole Loss was 1 Cap<sup>t</sup> & 5 privates killed & 5 or 6 wounded.

"This Spring the Rebels opened 2 Batteries upon the City, but did us little harm.

"May 6. Three Men o' War & some Transports arrived from England, having on board the 29<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> who were immed<sup>y</sup> landed, & we sallied out upon the Rebels, which so terrified them that they

left their Camp Equipage, Canon, Mortars &c. Thus ended our Besiegement which began Nov. 15, 1775 & continued till May 6, 1776 inclusive, 5 M. 3 W. & 2 Days."

It seems the 29<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of the London Lett. arrived at Quebec 6 May. G. Burgoyne's main body was met at sea after 20 May. About 700 were sent round to Quebec by G. How after his arrival at Halifax from the Evacu<sup>n</sup> of Boston.—We have no Acc<sup>o</sup> of a second Corps of 4000 Brunswickers following Burgoyne; I cannot yet satisfy myself as to Burgoyne's Army, but rather judge it not above 5 or 6000.

Sir Peter Parkers fleet was dispersed, *Half* of them put back to England & Ireland: & tho' they sailed again—yet doubtless with Diminution. The 3000 actually encamped once at Fort Johnston in C. Fear, may be the substance of the Kings southern Army. The 3000 Scotchmen were designed for Boston & to take possession of the finest Farms & Estates of the New England Rebels. I judge all the European Forces arrived & at their respective Divisions N<sup>o</sup> & S<sup>o</sup> except the Portsm<sup>o</sup> Fleet of 2<sup>d</sup> May 100 sail. These I consider as all the Augmentation which G. Howe will receive at N. York, making his Army perhaps 18000 Men—to oppose ours of say 30 perhaps 40,000 in that part. We may have six to 10,000 at Crown-point & Ticonderoga to oppose the Canadian Army. We may have 6000 in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>, 10,000 in N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>, 10,000 in Virginia, 10,000 flying Camp for Maryland, Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & Jersey, 7,500 at Rh Isld, & 2000 at Boston. The *American Army* in actual Service & Pay probably *80 or Ninety Thousand*: besides one Quarter of the residuary Militia, *Minute Men*.

The King & Parliamt. cannot complain that the Proclam<sup>a</sup> of Pardon by Ld. Howe was secreted from the People; for the Gen. Congress by a Resolve of 19<sup>th</sup> July published his Ldships Declar<sup>a</sup> & circular Letters throughout the Continent. But I have not yet heard of a single American that dare to accept the Kings Pardon:—and the Number is small & insignificant that would wish to have it received.

7. Rode to Newport. At Howlands Ferry I saw a French Vessel passing thro' in 22 days from Hispanola: says that 2<sup>d</sup> July a Spanish Fleet of 16 Men o' War passed by the Cape: and that a French & Spanish Declaration of War was daily expected. Report the Gallies repulsed.

10. . . . . This Evening came into Newp<sup>t</sup> a Vessel which

sailed from hence for W. Indies a week ago. On Thursday 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. she fell in with a fleet of 90 Transports & 16 Men o' War (or however a large fleet) standing westward. She was chased till yesterday Morning. They were off Nantucket. Wind N & light to day. This day a prize Ship went up by fogland to Prov.

11. Ldsday. A.M. at Newport I preached 2 Cor. v, 8-10. P.M. Prov. xxi, 21. After Sermon I admitted Rebecca the Wife of Joshua Sayer, Jun<sup>r</sup> to the profession of the Faith & entering into Covenant with God, and baptized her in the public Congregation. At the same Time I baptized Luci-anna the Daughter of Nathan & Judith Luther. . . . .

12. This Aft. I baptized 3 Children of Joshua Sayer, jun. in Right of Rebecca his Wife, viz, Eliza., Joshua & William Sanford ——— present Sister Trevett & Sister Potter. Privately.

13. At Newp<sup>t</sup> Viewed the Brigade of 1500 Men. Part of them drawn up on the Parade & exercised by Major Barton.

This Evening Cap<sup>t</sup> Chase came in & bro't in with him a 3<sup>d</sup> Prize he had taken in One Months Cruise.

Divers Reports not credited—that the two ships are taken above N. Y. by the Gallies—that the Kings Troops are all recalled from St. John's & Montreal to Quebec: and G. Burgoyne offered an Armistice of 6 Months—that 2 of our Fleet sailed hence last friday are taken by a Man o' War off Block Isld. All Tory Lies! Yesterday a Vessel in 7 W. from Lisbon brought Lond. Prints to 28 May: the King's Speech 24 May. Parliament prorogued.

14. Capt. Sion Martindale is in Newport. He was taken last year in a Continental Privateer & carried to Engld. as a Rebel. The Ministry tho't best to dismiss him. He returned by way of Halifax, where he escaped Goal & is now returning to joyn his Reg<sup>t</sup> at N York, as he was taken from the Land Service.

Simon one of D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock's Indians of the Narragansitt Tribe, visited me. He has been at Learn<sup>s</sup> about 6 years, is now in his 4<sup>th</sup> & last year at College,<sup>1</sup> has made a laudable proficiency in *Latin, Greek, & Philosophy*. They have been much in fear at Dartmouth Coll. of the Indians & Regulars. The President has been in Connecticutt 3 or 4 M<sup>o</sup>. A private Commencem<sup>t</sup> lately held there, as well as Harvard & Yale, & College dismissed. . . . .

<sup>1</sup> He was graduated in 1777, being styled on the Catalogue Daniel Simons. He became a minister and a missionary among the Indians at Stockbridge, Mass., and Cranberry, N. J.



15. . . . Dr. Hunter & Dr. Haliburton departed Newport this day by order of the Gen. Assembly. . . The Virginians say that Lt. Dunmore has decoyed & carried off about *One Thousd Negroes*. They may have 150 or 200 Th. Negroes in Virginia. Some of these he has sent to West Indies, I suppose under pretence of being refractory.

Dr. Witherspoon Pres<sup>t</sup> of Nassau, has lately published a Sermon preached at Continental Fast in May last: and subjoyned an Address to his Countrymen the Scotch in America to reconcile them to Independency. This he says will be best for G. Britain; & that at the Peace we shall trade with G. Britain as formerly. I doubt. Too much Scoticism! He wants to save his Countrymen, who have behaved most cruelly in this American conflict.

16. Rode to Bristol.

17. Returned to Dighton. I left Newport yesterday, and at about V<sup>h</sup> P.M. at 2½ M. this side Newport Peckham told me he had heard Canon for 2 hours. And at VI<sup>h</sup> I heard & counted 3 distinctly in the Valley below the Quaker Meetinghouse in Portsmouth.

Middle aft. reached Dighton.—Told by 4 persons they heard Canon—at Break o' day—at between S. rise and 1 h. high—at Noon & between XII & I. Quere, is this an Action at N York?

18. Ldsday at Dighton. A M I preached 1 Tim<sup>o</sup> 1, 17, P.M. Prov. xxi, 21. After Sermon I read the *Declar<sup>n</sup> of Indep* by Order of Authority, it having been ordered to be read in all the pub. Congregations of Massachusetts. I then admitted Sylvester & Abigail Richmond of Dighton to enter into or own their Baptismal Covenant, without propounding & I baptized Sally & Nancy two of their Daughters publicly—Twenty or 30 Canon heard this Evening here.

19. I baptized privately Sukey Daughter of Sylvester Richmond & Abigail his Wife.

20. Transcribing the preced<sup>g</sup> Memoirs.

21. . . . A Letter from Ticonderoga Aug 3 gives acc<sup>o</sup> of the Forces then there.—“We came from *Crownpoint* the 17th of July, left one Reg<sup>t</sup> there; *three Brigades* are encamped on a hill S. E. fr. Ticonderoga Ft. called *Mount Independence*, where we are raising some Batteries to great Advantage. *One Brigade* is encamped on the hill near the old French Lines where they have fortified very strong. We have now on the Lake *two Schooners* which mount



*twelve Guns* each, two sloops and five Gondalos, the Gondalos mount 4 G. each, & 5 Gondalos more almost finished."

So 4 Brigades & 1 Reg<sup>t</sup>—say, *Eight Thousand*. Two Battalions more were Aug. 1 raising in Connecticut for the Northern army. (And about July 20, *six Comp<sup>a</sup>* from Worcester C<sup>o</sup> Mass. passed thro' Hartf<sup>d</sup>, for N York.) Aug. 7 Col. Sergeants & Whitcombs Regiments marched from B<sup>o</sup> for Crownpoint, & Col. Phinneys Reg<sup>t</sup> the next day. So 3 Reg<sup>ts</sup> & 2 Battalions Augmentation, may make the N<sup>o</sup> Army, *Twelve Thousand*.

#### FAST IN N. YORK.

"In Convention of the Representatives of the State of N. York, at Harlem, the 2d day of Aug<sup>t</sup> 1776.

Resolved unanimously

That the 27<sup>th</sup> day of Aug<sup>t</sup> inst. be kept throughout this State as a day of Fasting, Humili<sup>a</sup> & Prayer to Almighty God, for the *implo<sup>r</sup><sup>a</sup>* of his *divine assist<sup>a</sup>* in the *Organization and Establishment of a Form of Government* for the Security & Perpetuation of the civil and religious Rights of Mankind; and to supplicate his further protection in the War which now rages thro' America.

Ordered, That the aforegoing Resolution be published in all the Newspapers in this State

Extract fr. the Minutes

ROBERT BENSON Secretary."

The Yorkers used to sneer at N. England Fasts. The first settlements in New England both Towns & Colonies were formed upon Prayer & Fasting, & looking up to God for Direction. I rejoice that N. York ask Council of God in forming their Civil Policy. It bodes well. May God council & bless them.

The Hon. Chief Justice DRAYTON of Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> on 23d Apr. last delivered an excellent Charge to the Jury, meriting to be written in Letters of Gold. He has entered learnedly into the political Dispute between G. Britain & America; and shewn himself the bold Judge, & firm Friend to public Law & Liberty. . . .

Cap<sup>t</sup> Chase in the Sloop Diamond returned last week to Providence after a Cruise of only one Month, having taken 5 Prizes, of which 3 are arrived. Total of the Cargoes of all

|        |   |   |   |   |                               |
|--------|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Sugar  | . | . | . | . | 1023 Hhds. 11 Tierces 33 Bbs. |
| Cocoa  | . | . | . | . | 15,600 lb                     |
| Coffee | . | . | . | . | 61 900 lb                     |
| Rum    | . | . | . | . | 12,380 Gallons                |
| Indico | . | . | . | . | 185 lb                        |
| Cotton | . | . | . | . | 17,750 lb                     |
| Oyl    | . | . | . | . | 3800 Gallons                  |
| Fustic | . | . | . | . | 25 Tons.                      |

## Flying Report of an Action at New York.

22. Reading Robertson's History of Charles VI. In a Maryland paper of July 11 is the Declaration of Independence dated 4 July. In the same paper is "a Declar<sup>a</sup> of the Delegates of Maryland July 6," in which among other things they say: . . .

"We the *Delegates of Maryland*, in Convention assembled, do declare, that the King of G. Britain has *violated his Compact* with his People, and that they owe no Allegiance to him: we have therefore tho't it just & necessary to impower our Deputies in Congress to joyn with a Majority of the United Colonies in declaring them free and independ<sup>t</sup> States." . . .

Thus Maryland at length awake! They were aroused by the Thunder of Virginia Convention of 31 May upon the Case of Gov. Eden; in which they charged Maryld. Convention with *proprietary Influence*, & appealed to the pple of that Colony at large. This stung them & gave the last stroke to proprietary Influence. The Body of the people convened in Districts all over Maryland & declared their sentiments for *Change of Gov<sup>t</sup>*, and for *Independ<sup>t</sup>*. The Convention saw they were gone, came full about, & coincided with the Desires of the Gen. Congress as to both:—i. e. they instructed their Delegates in Cong. to vote for Independ<sup>t</sup>, and called a new Convention for the express purpose of forming Government. They also publish a long laboured Vindication of themselves, respecting their not seizing Gov. Eden according to the general Recommendation of Congress to seize all disaffected & dangerous Enemies, but suffer him to depart with an adulatory Address or Testimony of his Friendship to the Colonies. Tho' Ld. ——— Letter intercepted shewed he was an insidious Foe. . . . .

23. Reading Robertson's Charles V.

24. Betsey returned from Newport. . . . Gen. Carleton & the Army in Canada highly resent our Demand of the Murderers as a Condition of ratifying Gen. Arnolds Cartel: he has issued a Declar<sup>a</sup> full of Vengeance, refusing hereafter to receive any Flags from the Rebels—and after a stormy Preface, affects a noble Generosity, and gives leave to all our Captives to return home to us only on parole to return when called for. He affects still to detach the body of the people from those whom the Voice of the pple has advanced or pushed forward at the head of our American Defence, by declaring the blame belongs only to those who have deluded them. He has Ends in this:

1. He sees the Congress are determined & fixt upon a delivery of the Indians which tomahauked our Men after the Capitulation, & also Capt. Foster the Regular Officer which commanded them. Carleton could not procure the first & chose not to render the latter. And so he would deliver up more than we requested viz, all Captives in their power. 2. They mean to wipe off the Disgrace with which their Treatm<sup>t</sup> to our Prisoners has tarnished the Glory of the English Troops, heretofore renowned for a generous Treatm<sup>t</sup> of Prisoners. 3. They mean a Claim on our honor; that we shall deliver up *all* Prisoners in our hands. And they will doubtless impeach our Generosity if we should not render up perhaps twice their Number. They have released 4 or 500 captivated at the Cedars: and may have in hand as many more viz, 350 taken on New Years day at Quebec, & 159 at Trois Riveres. Whereas our captures at St. Johns might be 8 or 900, besides 1000 Highlanders, & the Men of sundry Transports. I suppose a 4<sup>th</sup> Reason may be this, that notwithstanding the great Bluster of the Declar<sup>a</sup> they despair of the Conquest of America, & authoritatively intermix Generosity with Rigor that they may tempt and captivate America & so heal the Breach.

The York paper says our Army in and about New York is *seventy Thousand*!—say 40.

The 2 Ships the *Phoenix* & *Rose* in Topan Bay up Hudsons River have been attacked. Gen. Washington sent two Fireships against them. One grappled the Phoenix 20 Minutes, but not taking fire soon eno' the Phoenix disengaged herself: a Tender was burnt. Next day the Ships & Tenders returned thro' a vigorous Fire to Staten Isld, I believe effectually tired of going up Hudsons River.

This Even<sup>g</sup> arrived here my son Ezra from College, which he left last Monday. Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey of N. Haven bid him tell me, that in three days after the Colonels of Connecticut Militia received Orders, *Ten Thousand Men* passed thro' N. Haven on their way to New York—passing chiefly only on last Ldsday & Monday. All the Militia (15,000) on the West side of Connecticut River are marching.

25. Ldsdy. I preached at Dighton. A.M. Mat. xiii, 23. P.M. Ps. 37, 37.

26. . . . . It is said that some of the Hessian Troops are arrived, and "that there was a Junction of the Generals *Clinton*, *Cornwallis* & *Dunmore* with the Troops at Staten Isld." It is



certain that Dunmore has left Chesapeak Bay. The Magnitude of Dunmore may be learned by a Letter dated in Maryld. St. Mary's July 15—"there are now lying off the Mouth of St Marys River between 70 & *eighty* Sail of Vessels—this Morn<sup>s</sup> ten Boats full of Men landed at S<sup>t</sup> Georges Isld. & had returned for more." There was an Action & Dunmore was *repulsed* with the Loss of *Eleven Men killed* & two Tenders burnt: Our Loss only one killed. A Letter Maryld. 19 July "By the best Inform<sup>a</sup> the Enemy have no more than fifty Regulars of 14<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> about 150 Tories & 100 Negroes—Fleet continues at the Mouth of St. Mary's River—which at first consisted of 80 sail is reduced to little more than half that N<sup>o</sup> many of the Tenders and s<sup>q</sup><sup>r</sup> rigged Vessels hav'g gone to Virginia opposite the Mouth of Potomack." The greater part of this Fleet are Captures, not implying any great Number of Troops. Dunmores force, Nothing! . . . . Lett. Philad<sup>a</sup> 10 Aug. . . . . "Of the vast number of Shells which were thrown against Ft. Sullivan near Charlest<sup>o</sup> but *two fell into it*, & only one of them did any execution"—yet neither killed or wounded a Man. Rem 1. Poor Engineers—let them never more laugh at Americans. 2. Bombardment not so dangerous & terrible as has been imagined. . . .

27. Report by a Vessel that when she left N. York last Thursday an Action was supposed to be begun as Fireing was heard at the W. End of Long Island. The Rhode Isld. Gallies are returned to Newp<sup>t</sup>, they left N. York on Wedn<sup>y</sup> last Week, when it was said the Troops on Staten Isld. were striking their Tents. Much erroneous News! . . . . .

28. Deacon Joshua Sayer of my Church at Newport died at Taunton the 26<sup>th</sup> Inst. and on Monday P M was carried in a Boat to Newport for Interment aetat. 78.

29. The Chh. of England in America is exceedingly & really affected with the present Revolution. The Clergy especially seem to be generally at Difficulty about reconciling an Omission of Prayers for the King in the Liturgy with their Oath of Canonical Obedience & the Oath of Allegiance: And I believe they have generally shut up their Chhs. thro' the United States. Tho' this I am not ascertained of. They are all shut up by themselves in Rhode Isld, & Connecticutt States. And by some public<sup>a</sup> in the southern prints, I find the Clergy in Virginia &c disposed in the same Manner. The Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh of Eng. Clergy here are of three Classes. Those whose Salaries are established by Law, as in all the



States South of Pennsylvania: Those whose Salaries & Continuance in Office depend upon the Society in London: and those who depend only on their Congregations. The first may be 40 for Maryland, 70 for Virginia, 30 for the Carolinas & Georgia. Total, 140. The 2<sup>d</sup> Class is given in their Abstracts—their Number I don't recollect—say 80 or 90. The third is very small—but 4 Chh. in N. England, only the Boston & Newp<sup>t</sup> Chhs., & all the B<sup>d</sup> Clergy are fled but one—the Chhs. in the City of N. York & Philadelphia—say a dozen or 15 Clergy. Perhaps the Total of the Clergy of the Eng. Episcopacy in the Colonies from Nova Scotia to Florida inclusive, not above 250—say 300.

There is published in the N. York Mercury of 12 Aug<sup>t</sup> now before me, “an Address to the Episc<sup>o</sup> Clergy of the British Colonies” which I take to have been written in Virginia & to have primary reference to their Clergy. Incidentally the Writer gives the Numbers—“And shall any Episcopal Clergy men or the *whole two Hundred of them*, for so many are supposed to be in North America, set up their Judgments &c—against above Two Millions of people, who are sure & positive that *the Case has happened—that the King has broke his Oath* and they thereby *discharged from their Allegiance?*” so that 260 is reckoning high.

The Writer supposes the body of the Nation on the side of America, in comparison of whom these 200 are small, few. “And when therefore so immense a Majority not only in the Colonies but even at home, reprobate the Measures of Administration, shall a *few Episcopal Clergymen run the Hazard of exposing their Chh. to Ruin & utter Extirpation, by shutting up their Doors & refusing to give public Service*, because Nine Tenths of the whole British Empire dont think the same Way in Politics as these few Gentlemen judge they ought.” This seems to shew that the Chh. Doors were generally shut in America. Tho’ I don’t know the Fact.

The Writer says “In the beginning of K. Charles I Troubles there were not above a *score or two* of dissenting Congregations in all Engl<sup>d</sup>: but the Majority of the Episc<sup>o</sup> Clergy refusing Compliance with the prevailing powers, got themselves turned out of their Chhs, upon which dissenting preachers were put in to such a Number, that in less than 20 years, above a fifth part of all the Ministers in Engl<sup>d</sup> were most rigid Dissenters; & when they were ousted left such numerous congregations behind them as have been able to subsist to this day. This was done while Episcopacy tho’

publicly suppressed, was still in private subsisting. *But what can be hoped for now in the Colonies, where there is no English Episcopacy at all ! where it has been so constantly refused by Gov<sup>t</sup> at home tho' so frequently & earnestly applied for from hence ? . . .*

“And do ye really choose then, Gentlemen, to see Episcopacy abolished? Is it a Matter so indifferent to you, as that you are determined not to comply with the Injunctions under Debate, in Case they should issue, tho' thereby ye might induce *the southern Colonies at least to furnish the expence of sending some to Scotland to receive Consecration there; or to procure from thence some of the despised Bishops to come hither, where no Oaths of the House of Hanover will be demanded of them?*”

This gives an Idea of the Destress of the Episcopal Cause—and that the Body of the Chh of England Clergy are against us—that the southern Episcopalians meditate sending to Scotland for a Nonjuring Bishop. However they need not to destress themselves. Let a Convocation of the American Clergy be assembled at Virginia and petition the English Hierarchy for an English Bishop, or to consecrate an American Bishop, and I have no doubt but the B<sup>p</sup> of S<sup>t</sup> Asaph or some other B<sup>p</sup> would quit their Stations for the Honor of an American Bishop. I suspect the preceding address was written before Independency. . . .

This Afternoon I attended & preached M<sup>r</sup> Smiths sacramental Lecture from 2 Thess. i, 12 and had a very satisfactory Interview there, with Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Toby of Berkeley, & Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Fobes of Rainham.<sup>1</sup> We have a flying Report that the Kings Troops, 12,000, have landed at Long Island.

30. M<sup>r</sup> Fobes visited me. He is a pious and inquisitive Gentleman. Last Week the Hon. *Samuel Adams* Esq. returned from the Congress to Boston,—I presume to assist in forming the Polity of the Massachusetts, which was referred to be considered & determined by the Assembly sitting this Week by Adjournment.

A Letter from Mr. Ellery in Congress dated Philad<sup>a</sup> Aug 11, 1776. The Congress lately had an Interview with some of the Seneca Chiefs—“The Name by which the oldest Sachem said the President would hereafter be known amongst them.—It was *Karanduaen*, the Meaning of which is the *Great Tree*.” Quere, did the Trees of

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Tobey (Harvard 1733), pastor of the church in Berkley from 1737 to his death in 1781; Perez Fobes (Harvard 1762),\*pastor in Raynham from 1766 to his death in 1812.

Liberty suggest this Idea to the Indians?—I imagine a half-quiescent *a* should end the Word :—auna is a frequent Termination of the Dialect of the 6 Nations. . . .

31. This Afternoon we have certain Information by the Provid. paper containing Extracts from N. York paper—that on Thursday 22<sup>d</sup> Inst. Gen. Howe landed Ten Thous<sup>d</sup> Kings Troops on Long Isld. near Utrecht.

Copy of a Letter which I wrote at Newport which I have not yet had an Opportunity to send.

NEWPORT, Aug<sup>t</sup> 14, 1776.

REV<sup>d</sup> & DR<sup>d</sup> SIR

I should long ago have acknowledged your Favor of last Spring, but that being an Exile & removed with my family to Dighton 28 Miles from hence, & yet occasionally visiting the Remnant of my Flock, I have somehow unaccountably been prevented. You are often upon my Mind, Sir, at the Throne of Grace, as I feelingly enter into your Distresses & sympathize with you in your Trials. God has caused us to suffer in a most glorious Cause, a Cause in which the Interest of the Redeemers K<sup>m</sup> is deeply involved. I hope he will give us Grace to pass thro' the fiery Trial with Dignity to ourselves, but above all with Glory to his great Name.

Is it not truly amazing to behold the Tokens of the divine presence conspicuous in the unexpected & astonishing REVOLUTION which has taken place in America? Who gave the Americans one heart? Who poured down Wisdom into the General Congress and Colonial Conventions & Assemblies? Who has in this very short Space of one year sprung into Existence and aroused into the field Armies and Forces, say, to the Amount of 70 to 90 Thous<sup>d</sup>? While G. Britain has brought against us a combined Armament of say 40 to 50 Thous<sup>d</sup>, with the Thunder of the Navy—an Armament & Force which, had it been bro't against any K<sup>m</sup> or Empire in Europe, would have spread Terror & Dismay to the most intrepid Power on the other side of the Atlantic—yet while this combined force is bro't against us, and now in actual Vengeance, we receive the Lash without Flinching, without a Shudder—we sustain the Vengeance without Terror—and instead of spreading Terror & Dismay thro' the Continent, it excites Heroism & an unparralleled Intrepidity thro' the Millions of America! It is given to all to rush to Arms with amazing Avidity! For what great Work is this Spirit permitted or excited by a holy Providence? Zion's King will get Honor & Glory to himself among the Tumults & Revolutions of Empires. I am greatly pleased that a spirit of Prayer & Fasting has gone thro' the Continent. The Gen. Congress has called us to this duty once this Spring past: N. England have had two Colony Fasts besides: the Synods transfused a Fast thro' all the States from N. England to Georgia—and now N. York have instituted another. And notwithstanding the abandoned Wickedness of Multitudes, I doubt not, a vast Incense of Prayer & Supplic<sup>a</sup> has ascended from this widespread Territory of the United States into the Presence of the supreme Lord of the Universe. He is a Prayer-hearing God, & Zion's Prayers will not be in vain.



A great Enterprize is now in Action with you at N York. May your Eyes see the Salvation of the God of our Fathers. Let us be beheld by God, as a people using indeed but not trusting in Arms, in the numerous Hosts now assembled for Battle. Let us indeed look to these numerous Hosts with pleasure, but look to them only as Instruments raised up by God to accomplish our Deliverance. How beautiful were the Hosts of Israel in the view of Balaam? and before that how animating to behold their Hosts in Actual Exertion and Conflict with Amalek, especially while Moses's hand was held up? Let our Hosts go forth in the Name of the Lord, in our unquestionably righteous Cause: and at the same time let all the Moses, Joshuas, Aarons, & all the People keep the hand of Prayer lift up to God, till our Enemies shall be discomfited, and our Country & the Chh of God, gloriously delivered? And then let him have all the Glory. May we be delivered with such a Salvation as shall cause all Nations to acknowledge that God is with us of a Truth, & will be with any People that truely wait upon him, & commit their Cause (if righteous) to him, and so give Glory to God on our Behalf. However let us be prepared for several Defeats—and resolve in the Strength of the Most High, not to be dejected nor dismayed, but to become more animated & rise to Difficulties with an increasing Vigour & Fortitude, till the great Work shall be accomplished.

By the Declaration of Independence, the Congress have tied a Knot, which G. Britain can neither untie nor cut. The American Republic is formed. May God Almighty bless it. Excellent is the Constitution of Virginia, which I observe with Pleasure excludes BISHOPS from all civil Dominion. The Policy is somewhat complex, but it is like the System of Nature well guarded. The Separation and perpetual *Disconnexion*, of the three Divisions into which *public power* or Dominion is resolved, I mean, the *Legislative, Executive, & Judicial*;—the Rotations, frequent Elections, the Limitation of the *Executive* with which is the Militia, the self-continuation of the House of Delegates independent from the Governor or the other Branch the Senate—all conspire to secure the Perpetuity of civil Liberty to the Sovereign Lords the People in the Commonwealth of Virginia. The Constitution of New Jersey surpasses it in the Catholic Establishment of Universal, equal religious, protestant Liberty.

With great Esteem I am, Dear Sir,

Your Brother in the Gospel and Companion & Fellow Sufferer

In the Kingdom and Patience of the Great Emanuel,

EZRA STILES.

Rev. Dr Jn<sup>o</sup> Rodgers New York.

[Forwarded by Mr Thaxter first Week in Sept.]

September.

1. Ldsday. At Dighton I preached on Isai. xxx, 18. P M. Ephes. ii, 7. Also propounded James Andrews & his Wife for owning the Covenant. There is no Chh yet gathered in this Congregation—yet I administer Baptism to such as desire it. . . .

2. . . . This day, Sept. 2<sup>d</sup> about XI A M. we received at Dighton the News of a grand Battle at New York on Long Isld.



which is confirmed repeatedly this Afternoon. This Eveng. M<sup>r</sup> Adam Babcock told me he was this day at Dartmouth saw Cap<sup>t</sup> Coit, who told him that last Saturday at Stonington he saw an Express from Gen. Washington to Gov. Trumble, which left N. York on Friday last, Via Long Isld. to N. London, carried by the Tide to Stonington. This Express told him, that on Thursday last (29<sup>th</sup> Aug.) a Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of 2000 Kings Troops attacked us at Red Hook, & were repulsed. Immed<sup>y</sup> came on the same day a general Action between it was supposed 18,000 Kings Troops & 22,000 American Troops on L. Isld.; in which we lost many, as it was supposed 5000—that we kept our Ground & that G. Washington was removed over upon L. Isld. From all of which I collect that there has been a very bloody Battle. The Enemy were entrenching within Musquet shot of our Army. The Good Lord support & sustain us in this trying Period. Mr. Babcock judges that not above 16 Thousand Connecticut Troops actually at N. York.—That the last Marching on the W. Side Connect. River did not exceed 8000. He judges the whole American Army at New York may be Fourty Thousd effective Men. It is said that most of the Men in the great Battle last Thursday were New England Men. This Eveng. Ezra & Betsy returned from Cambridge. Rumour that Halifax is burnt.

3. . . . . Mr. Babcock gave me further Intelligence that a Col. Zedwitz of N. York in our Army was lately detected in a Correspondence with Ld. Howe. Ld. Howes Letters found in his Pocket, & copies of his Answers. That he was under sentence of Death, & to have been executed the friday after the Battle.

He also told me that he had been a month in Philad. last Spring, was there when M<sup>r</sup> Deane<sup>1</sup> sailed for Paris: was intimate with M<sup>r</sup> Deane & privy to the scheme of his Voyage. Which was this: The Congress gave him a contract to supply Goods proper to supply the Indian Trade, which might yield Profits of £2000 sterl<sup>s</sup> to M<sup>r</sup> Deane. That M<sup>r</sup> Deane was not cloathed by the Congress with the Character of an Ambassador: but was to feel the Pulse of the French Court, & learn whether such a Character would be received there from the United Colonies? And if so, a sufficient Number of Friends in Congress had given assurance of his future Appointment as Ambassador. This was to be kept secret for the present. And M<sup>r</sup> Babcock said he could not have communicated

<sup>1</sup> Silas Deane (Yale 1758) sailed for France in April, 1776.

it 3 Months ago. He lodged in the same House with M<sup>r</sup> Deane and assisted in putting up his Trunks.

Report this Evening that the Kings Troops carry all before them: have all Long Island, and are attacking N. York City. Tory News.

4. A Newport Man this day saw the Post, which informed him that they had News at Providence, where the Assembly is now sitting, that our Loss in the Battle last Thursday, was about *five hundred killed*—another Acc<sup>o</sup> from Newport says 563 killed. Uncertain, but probable.—The Newport Tories have sent abroad in the Country several Ways a report briskly circulating, that the Kings Troops have got all L. Isld & are besieging New York itself.

Yesterday M<sup>r</sup> Backus<sup>1</sup> of Middleboro' a Baptist Elder visited me. I mentioned the satisfaction I had that there had been & still was so much & frequent Fast<sup>s</sup> & praying in all the United Colonies—and particularly that I observed the Baptists of S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> last year appointed a Fast. He said it was a quarterly Fast—and added that the Bapt. Association in N. Engld had upheld quarterly Fast<sup>s</sup> as a general & standing thing—but that it *was in these times discontinued*, alledging as a Reason the frequent Fast<sup>s</sup> of public Appointment. The true Reason is the Heads of the Baptists in N. Engld. were for taking side with the Ministry. As appeared in their proposed Applic<sup>n</sup> to the Continental Congress in the fall of 1774, & their laboring to make it as a Condition, of using their Interest in R. Isld Assembly for levying Troops after the Hostilities of Lexington, that Mass. Assembly should abolish their persecuting Laws.

5. Set out for Rh. Isld. M<sup>r</sup> Fisher this day from Providence, brings certain Acc<sup>o</sup> that G. Washington had withdrawn our Troops from Long Island, and that Gen. Sullivan & Gen. Ld. Stirling were taken by the Enemy.

I lodged at Dr. Turners.

6. Came to Newport. All in Sollicitude about the Evacuation of L. Isld. Tories rejoycing—Sons of Liberty dejected.

7. A Long Isld. Man just from thence says, the West End sent a Committee to Ld. Howe (of which his Brother was one)—and Ld. Howe will not molest them if neuters or lay down Arms. & he will pay for provisions. A number of Tories (say 600) joyned the Kings Troops and took Arms against us. Long Isld. evacuated the night of 29<sup>th</sup> ult.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Isaac Backus, the well known historian.

8. A.M. I preached on Eph. ii, 7, & administered the Sacrament to 24 Communicants. P.M. 2 Tim. iv. 7, 8, applied to Deacon Joshua Sayer of my Chh. who died at Taunton 26<sup>th</sup> ult. æt. 78, at 1 P.M. as did W<sup>o</sup> Peckham of my Chh. the same day A.M. Within one Month have died four Members of my Church. At Meet<sup>g</sup> phps 120 Persons. Reading Dr. Coleman's Parable X Virgins.

9. We have fought better on L. Isld. than I feared—it is cursorily said we have lost 800 killed & taken. London News to 21 May—"Opinion of the general Provincial Congresses have been taken on the Question *whether America ought to aim at Independence*, when seven of them appeared to be for Indep<sup>y</sup> and 5 against it." Common Sense was in the press in London, ascribed to Mr. Adams.

10. Report that Ld. Howe by Gen. Sullivan offers Proposals to Congress—that America remain Independent—that if G. Britain shall be aided with Men from hence she shall pay us—that if we need Assistance from thence, we shall pay them.—Incredible. Monday last week the Enemy had not taken possession of our deserted Lines on L. Isld., but were encamped, say within one mile of them—had not bombarded the City.

11. This Morn<sup>g</sup>. an Express from Providence brot. a Letter from Congress dated 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> to the commanding officer of the Brigade at Newport which I read. It purported that the Congress having received Inform<sup>a</sup> from Gen. Washington of "the Augmentation & Superiority of the Enemy," & that they had determined to bend their whole force against N. York, & so to penetrate thence into the neighboring States—ordered one of the Reg<sup>ts</sup> at Newport to march immed<sup>y</sup> for N. York. Thereupon Col. Lippets Reg<sup>t</sup> received march<sup>g</sup> orders. When this Express passed, nothing new turned up at New York.

This day I conversed with Cap<sup>t</sup> Sears of N. York the famous Patriot—he said, he came from N Y since the Evacu<sup>a</sup> of L. Isld:—that the first Land'g. of the Regulars on L. Isld & encamp<sup>t</sup> at Flatbush was but 6,000 (tho' called 10,000 in the prints):—that our Forces on L. Isld never exceeded *seven thousand*—that we had 10,000 at Kings Bridge, 10,000 at the City, & 10,000 in the middle of the Isld of N York, & 12,000 on Jersey side:—that the Enemy did not attack Red Hook:—that on the day of principal Action, a Debark<sup>a</sup> was perceived but judged small, we little tho't



of its being the main body :—that we attacked with about three thousand & fought well, but were surprized by findg ourselves flanked & interrupted by a large body of that days Landing. I observed that we had great Confidence in our Generals & their Arrang<sup>t</sup> of the Army : but it was a matter of inquiry, why we had so few forces on L. Isld., and why in the Battle it should have been said, the Enemy exceeded us in Numbers? He replied, that it was known from the beginning that if the main body of the Enemy landed on L. Isld, it would not be tenable by us : that if the body landed elsewhere, we had 'Troops eno' to keep the Isld. against a Detachment &c.

Mr. Robert Stevens returning from Carolina was at N. York beginning July, visited his intimate Friend Gen. Green at L. Isld—& being told that they had there but 5000, he asked the General the Reason, & the Gen. told him, it was well known if the Enemy landed their main body there, the Isld was not tenable ; M Stevens told me this to day.

12. Visited Rev<sup>d</sup> M Campbell, æt. 81. and preached a Lecture at Tiverton, Eph. ii, 7.

13. Visited Rev. Mr. Ellis of Little Compton & preached a Lecture at III P.M. on Jno. vi, 47. Rode 8 M. & preached an Eveng. Lecture at M<sup>r</sup> Browns in Tiverton. . .

14. Visited Brother Primus at Fall River, dined with him & returned to Dighton : where I find a Report which I dont credit, that General & Ld Howe have proposed a Cessation of Arms & a Conference appointed on the subject of Pacification—Ld Howe, Gen Howe & another on the part of G. Britain ; & Dr. Franklin, M<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Adams & M<sup>r</sup> Rutledge on the part of America & the Congress.

15. Ldsdy. At Dighton A.M. I preached on Heb. iv, 16. P.M. Jno. xxi, 17. James Andrews & his Wife owned the Covenant, which I administered to them in the presence of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Fisher, & then I baptized their 2 children James & Mary. All performed in the public Congregation, tho' no Church as yet gathered in this Society.

16. Col. Chh. came from Newp<sup>t</sup> and passed thro' Dighton last Night Express to Mass. Assembly to solicit a Reg<sup>t</sup> of Mass. Militia, by Direction of the Cont. Congress to be stationed at Newport in room of Col. Lippets Reg<sup>t</sup> which marched for N. York yesterday. The other Reg<sup>t</sup> at Newport has also rec<sup>d</sup> marching orders for



N. York: & the Committee of Safety now sitting at Newp<sup>t</sup> have ordered Detachments from R. Isld Militia sufficient for a Reg<sup>t</sup> commanded by Col Cook to be forthwith called in. So the Continental Brigade is to be replaced with a Brigade of Militia. The Cont. Brig. last week did not want one hundred of being full, i. e., had actually 1400 Men—750 to a Reg<sup>t</sup> when full. This I had from one of the Field Officers.

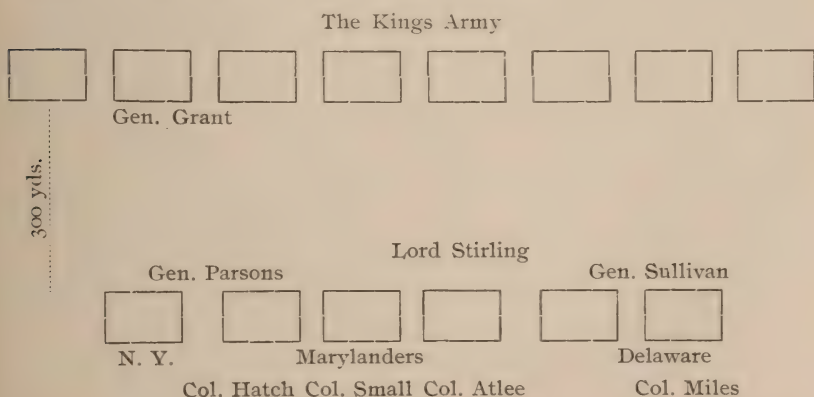
Capt Gardner was at Scituate Yesterday, where was a Man that left Nantasket the day before, viz. Saturday, who says that day 4 Privateers attacked the Milford Frigate off in sight, & were joyned by two more Privateers. The 6 were engaged with the Frigate when he left Nantasket. Two Continental Privateers sailed from Swanzy one on Sat<sup>y</sup> the other on yest<sup>y</sup>, with orders to joyn 20 others in Boston Bay, to unite in attack<sup>e</sup> the Milford, of some say 28 others 36 Guns, which has greatly molested us and is a prime Sailor. She goes in & out at Halifax. Some Dighton people imagined they heard Guns this Morng. off Cape Cod.

17. Last Night about X o'Clock Dighton pple imagined they heard many Canon. I heard none. . . . Actions & Battle on Long Island, N. York, Aug<sup>t</sup> 26 &c. Collection of Accounts. . . .

No Paper printed at N. York since 29 Aug<sup>t</sup>. The Gen. Congress have ordered three Posts every Week thro' the Continent—to ride Night & Day—a Rider for every 25 or 30 Miles. In Congress 30 Aug<sup>t</sup> 1776.

From the preceeding Accounts respecting the Transactions on Long Isld, I collect, 1. That the Kings Troops began landing there 22 & 23 of Aug<sup>t</sup> and by 27<sup>th</sup> had their main body landed, perhaps 15 or 16 Thousd (tho' it is said 20 Th.) for they must have left one Third of their Army at Staten Isld. 2. That on the Morning of Tuesday 27<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup>, being on Fast-day, we sent out phps 3000 or 4000 at most, as out-guards & advanced parties to harrass & obstruct the Enemy's Approaching, and so to retreat within the Lines. 3. That they when out meditated a Field fight (contrary to the primary Design) and a part of them boldly cast themselves into that form arranging our Lines of Battle accordingly; & that the Enemy ranged their Line of Battle 300 yds from ours. 4. That in this manner we stood for six hours till Noon, without giving our fire, and yet receiving the Canonade of the Enemy's Artillery. 5. That previous to this one of our Regiments had a warm Action in the woods, & behaved well. 6. That the Enemy out-generalled us by

a covert March of one of their 3 Columns so as to encircle & surround our main body, which had hitherto stood ready for action but hitherto without fighting. 7. That thereupon, instead of surrendering, our men fought their Way thro' heroically and valiantly, so that about three Quarters got home to the Lines—for subsequent accounts make our missing 7 or 800. Again, 8. While we lost two Generals taken, the Enemy had one killed the infamous Gen Grant. It is said he was slain by our Gen. Parsons. This the State of the Actions Tuesday—the Enemy having succeeded to drive us within our Entrenchments—This the Enemy undoubtedly considered as a great Victory. But 9. On Wednesday 28<sup>th</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> the Enemy met with a Repulse at our Lines, very heavy and discouraging: and as to Loss on their side very great & far beyond ours on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Fame says 2000—suppose 3 or 400 killed. On the 29<sup>th</sup> indeed we evacuated L. Isld—but on the whole, we may be satisfied—at least not so mortified, as if we had been driven off thro' Cowardice & without good Fighting. We may conjecture the Position of the Armies Tuesday noon, thus:



Undoubtedly this Exemplar is not exact. But there were three Regiments & 3 Battalions, equal to six Battalions of, say, 500 effective men each; making a Corps of about three thousand—a proper & suitable Body to reconoitre & harrass, but not give pitched Battle to Ten or 15 Thousd.

19. William Goddard, Esq., Surveyor of the General Post office in the United States, came to Newport 15<sup>th</sup> Inst. He left N. York the 8<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>. He describes the Position of our Army thus,

5000. at the City of N York

6000. at Harlem

A grand Body at Kings Bridge

10,000 at Eliza. Town & Amboy being the flying Camp

Another Body at Powles hook. Besides those to garison the Forts on N<sup>o</sup> & E Rivers

That Gen. Lee was gone on an Expedition to Florida but an Express sent for him: That several Thousd of the Car<sup>o</sup> Militia were gone against the Indians which had cut off *fourty families* in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. . . . .

Having finished the Old Testament in Course I this day began the New Testament, & purpose examining & comparing the whole of it, with the Syriac Testament, which I keep before me. This is, in my opinion as much the Original as the Greek, & rather more so, being certainly of the apostolic Age & made under their Inspection, if not by them. Matthew, Hebrews, & Peter at least were first written in Syriac: and in general I think the Greek is rather to be considered a Translation of the Syriac, than else. If the Apostles had been all Englishmen, raised up by heaven to spread the Gospel to all Nations as well as to the English, some of their Writings as Epistles to foreign Nations would be in French &c. as well as some in English. But would it be incredible if they should make English Copies for their Countrymen? If however these writings should all be translated in English in the Days of the Authors & approved & used certainly from the highest Xtian Antiquity in the English Churches, what should forbid that the English Copy should be of as high Authority as the others? In the Western Chhs. the Greek Copy is considered as Original—but not so in the Asiatic Chhs., where especially when out of the reach of the Greek Tongue, the Syriac is esteemed so, by all that examine the matter: altho' as the English Translation with us, so the Armenian, Coptic, & Ethiopic Translations are of full Weight & Authority with the Chhs of those Languages.

I am now reading the Gospel according to St Matthew—and I consider myself as having before me the very Copy that Matthew himself wrote. Matthew wrote in Syriac—and who would be at the pains of translating Syriac into Syriac? how superfluous would it be? As much so, as for some one this Century, to translate Dr Watts or Dr Dodderidge's English Writings into English. The Syrian Christians, in forming a Collection of the N Testament,



would doubtless take the very Copy of Matthew which was read in the Chhs from the 8<sup>th</sup> year after the Ascension. They translated the other Books as they were written—except the Apocalypse, which was not at first believed to have been written by St. John. And this by the way confirms the Antiquity of the Syriac Transl<sup>d</sup> that they were finished before the End of the first Century i. e. before St John wrote the Revelation—or at least before the Dispute that arose respecting the Genuineness of the Apocalypse, which was at the beginning of the 2<sup>d</sup> Century. . . .

This Evening we have a report that our Army evacuated N York last Ldsdy—& the Kings Troops took possession of the City. And next day about 5000 landed 8 M. this side the City, when our Troops attacked & repulsed them.

20. Report of a second Battle about Hellgate. News exceeding variable & uncertain. Great Things & Transactions and Events are carrying into Execution & Accomplishment. Ezra from Newp<sup>t</sup> to day.

22. Ldsdy. A.M. at Dighton I preached & also P.M. upon Acts iii, 15. on the Resurrection of J. C., its Proof, its supporting Xty. as a divine Institution. . . .

23. Died at Pittsfield Aug 23. Rev<sup>d</sup> Caleb Barnum Pastor of the Chh of Taunton æt 40. He went Chaplain in Col Greatons Reg<sup>t</sup> last Winter. After the Evacuation of Boston he went with the Army to Quebec: returned to Ticonderoga—was dismissed 24 July being in ill health. Returning home came to Pittsfield Aug 2<sup>d</sup> where he lay sick till 23<sup>d</sup> & died. A very patriotic Character!<sup>1</sup> I wrote a Letter to Uncle Eldad Taylor, one of the Council of Massachusetts, at Watert<sup>o</sup>—request<sup>g</sup> the last Census.

24. . . . This Morning a Report here at Dighton of a Battle at N York last Wednesday. It comes thus, One Clark of Swanzy returned there yesterday P.M. from Gov. Trumble (to whom he had been sent on business about some Connecticut Firearms). He says Gov. Trumbull read him his sons<sup>2</sup> Letter from N York giving an Acc<sup>t</sup> of an Action—that the Kings Troops chiefly Hessians marched out of the City & attacked us about halfway between the City & Kingsbridge: that we fought & repulsed them: a 2<sup>d</sup> Battle since Evacu<sup>a</sup> of N. York.

<sup>1</sup> See also this Diary, March 6, 1772.

<sup>2</sup> Colonel Joseph Trumbull, the eldest son of Gov. Jonathan Trumbull, of Connecticut, was now Commissary-General of the Army.



The Body of Connecticut Militia on both sides the River is now in Service. And every fifth Man under æt 60, Training & alarm Lists included, is now drafted in Massachusetts and on their March. The whole Country is in Commotion.

25. It is said we have been repulsed in L. Champlain where we have the following Fleet.

|                                           |   |   |   |    |    |   |    |     |
|-------------------------------------------|---|---|---|----|----|---|----|-----|
| Royal Savage                              | . | . | . | 12 | G. | . | 50 | Men |
| Enterprize                                | . | . | . | 12 | .  | . | 50 |     |
| Revenge                                   | . | . | . | 10 | .  | . | 45 |     |
| Liberty                                   | . | . | . | 10 | .  | . | 45 |     |
| 4 Gondolas                                | . | . | . | 3  | .  | . | 45 |     |
| 3 Row Gallies, 10 Gondolas near finished. |   |   |   |    |    |   |    |     |

Preparing a Fast Sermon. In the Afternoon I rode to Taunton.

26. The Church of Taunton having sent and invited in half a dozen of the neighbor<sup>s</sup> Ministers to lead & assist them in the Solemnity of a day of Fasting & Prayer in their desolate & bereaved State, upon the Death of their late Pastor the Rev<sup>d</sup> Caleb Barnum, & to seek Divine Direction in obtaining another Pastor: there convened this day there the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Shaw of Bridgewater, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Turner of Middleboro' Precinct, the Rev Mr Fobes of Raynham, Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Smith of Dighton and myself. There was a very large & serious Congregation. In the Fornoon I preached on Matt. ix, 38. P.M. M<sup>r</sup> Smith preached on *according to the good pleasure of his Will*. The Church was stayed after the Assembly was dismissed, and chose a Committee to joyn with the Society's Committee next Monday—to supply the Pulpit & seek for a Man to settle in the Ministry there in the Room of Mr Barnum. The Committee then waited on the Ministers for their Advice in recommending a suitable Person for the Ministry in this Church. The Ministers advised the Church to me—being of opinion that my Chh at Newport was so broken up that I should no more minister to them, & urged me to seek a Dismission from them & come to Taunton. I told them, I hoped it might please God that my Congregation at Newp<sup>t</sup> might be gathered again, and that I should by no means seek a Disconnection from them at present, and therefore that if immediate Settlement in the Min<sup>y</sup> was adviseable for Taunton, I must be out of the Question. Thereupon several candidates were mentioned as Mr Mansfield, Mr Jones, Mr Strong &c: the ministers were rather

inclined for Mr Jones.<sup>1</sup> We had considerable Conversation among the ministers about New Divinity.

27. The Massach. are levying every *fifth* Man from 16 to æt. 60, that is, of the militia & Alarm Lists inclusive, for two months. Many are marched, a Body this day assembled at Taunton immed<sup>y</sup> to march for New York. The Reports & News from the Army exceedingly various & imperfect. G. Wash. certainly evacuated the City for N. York Ldsdy the 15<sup>th</sup> Inst. when the Kings Troops took possession of it. They issued out in large Detachments the same day, & Tuesday & Wednesday & returned. Each day our Troops met them & Skirmishes ensued; but I cannot yet be satisfied there has been any capital Action.

Last Evening a Post came into Taunton. A Letter from L<sup>t</sup> Ephraim Crossman to his Father in Taunton dated "N York Chelsea Sept. 12. 1776. The Enemy has opened a Battery opposite a fort we have at a place called Hellgate, & they throw at each other Canon Balls & Bombs & Grape shot otherguise than ever they did at Roxbury." This was the great & heavy firing heard at the Westward. Another of his Letters dated "N York almost to Kings Bridge Sept. 17 (N. B. Tuesday) 1776—" *Last Sunday* the Ships drew round the City & *landed their force*. And the Situation of the Island is such that for some miles from the City the Ships could fire clean across. Our Brigade were ordered to make their Escape with our Baggage as we lay in such a Situation that we should have been cut off. We on our march towards Kings Bridge were attacked by the Enemy who lay in wait for us I suppose for they did not fire on us till we were in about *two Rods* of them & all of us very heavy Packs.—for a little while the Balls flew thick & I have not a rag &c—I dare say there is 500 of us in the same Situation.—They attacked us next day (I suppose Mond<sup>y</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> Sept.) & I turned out Volunteer & followed them—and *we won the Ground, drove them till they brought their Ships to bear on us*, & the Grape shot flew thick eno' for once. But very few in our Company or Brigade has got a Rag but what they have on."

Remark 1. Where was the good Conduct in suffering a Brigade to be ambushed? 2. Why did they not turn about & fight as good Soldiers? 3. Many threw down their Packs and ran off like

<sup>1</sup> Elias Jones was settled as Mr. Barnum's successor in October, 1777, and was dismissed in 1779. He was perhaps the Princeton graduate of that name in 1767.

Cowards. That this was the most of the Brigade, which probably might not exceed 5 or 6 or 700 men, I infer hence. L<sup>t</sup> Crossman says the Reason why he has not a Rag of Clothes is because he lost his pack, & that he judges 500 were in the same Case—and again, few of our Brigade has got a Rag, &c. 4. I suppose Gen. Howe is marching out his forces into the Isld 5 or 6 miles & back again, rather for accustoming them to the ground, than for Action, intending afterwards some stroke. Thus they march out perhaps near to our Encamp<sup>ts</sup> & have little Skirmishes avoid<sup>s</sup> a general or any very capital action. We watch their Motion, get under Arms, & when they turn about, we follow and chase them into the City. “*We won the Ground drove them &c.*” These Manoeuvres or Operations are called Battles, Victories, &c. These Marches & Countermarches, Zigzags & Returns are Nothing. But I am a little mortified to find so much Cowardice in our Troops. A cowardly Brigade ought to be stigmatized & dismissed.

Upon returning this Eveng. to Dighton, Dr. Bailies tells me Gen. Wash. in a Letter to the Governor of Rhode Isld has said “that two Regiments failed in Courage,” & that one was Col a Mass. Reg<sup>t</sup> the other Gen. Parsons a Connect. Regiment, the Officers behaved well, but not the Privates.

It is said there are Letters to Col Carpenter of Rehoboth, giving news to Wedn<sup>y</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>, that on that day a great Action happened in which we were successful & drove them back into the City, they leaving the incredible Number of 5 or 6000 upon the field, & our Loss 1000 killed. I should rejoyce to have it verified, but I intirely doubt it to have been more than a small skirmish with the Enemy at one of their Excursions.

29. Ldsdy. I preached at Taunton. A.M. upon 1 Cor. i, 8, 9. P.M. 1 Pet. v, 4. At the Desire of the Deacons I stayed the Chh. after the Congregation was dismissed, and led them to a Vote for the Dismission & Recomend<sup>a</sup> of Jemima Harvey from the Chh. of Taunton to the Chh of Swanzy, in New Hampshire, the Deacons to sign a Letter of Recommendation. . . . .

30. The Select Men desired me to pray with the Town Meeting being called to chuse a Committee to joyn with the Chh. Committee for getting a Minister—and also to empower their Representatives in Gen. Court to frame a new Plan of Government. The Gen. Assembly having adjourned & returned to their Towns to ask instruction on this Head. It is proposed by the Assembly that



after they shall have formed the Plan, it be remitted to the several Towns for their approbation.

October.

1. I returned to Dighton. . . . .

2. Setting out on a Journey into Connecticut.

On the 3<sup>d</sup> Oct. I was riding from Rehoboth to Killingly where I lodged with M<sup>r</sup> Thaxter, who heard & counted 50 Canon about XI A.M. And the same were heard at Woodstock. This was an Engagem<sup>t</sup> between 2 Eng. Frigates and a Continental Vessel of Force off between Block Isld & Fishers Isld.

6. I kept Sabbath at Woodstock with Rev<sup>d</sup> Abel Stiles, my aged uncle, & preached for him, A.M. Ps. xxxvi, 7. P.M. 1 Cor. i, 9.

7. At Ashford I met Soldiers returning from Captivity at Quebec. They told me they were kept in Irons till after our Flight of 6 May last. They said they were 375 Taken when Gen. Montgomery was slain. Of which 195 came away & were landed at N York or Jersey. 82 Enlisted with Regulars—all but two, Europeans. 100 circa—died in Quebec, chiefly with small pox.

8. Visited Uncle Ebenezer Stiles æt. 76 at Coventry.

Mass. Soldiers marching for New York—& Connec<sup>t</sup> Soldiers returning. At Coventry I met with Professor Hoell<sup>1</sup> of Providence returning from Philadelphia. He tells me the people of Jerseys are not generally for Independency, but sit still & let the Patriots run their Race; but many say publicly that the Kings Troops will prevail, & talk discouragingly about the Expence &c. He thinks this is the State of Pensylvania & in general of all the Southern Colonies. I asked why Jersey should procede to elect M<sup>r</sup> Livingston Governor? He replied the Tories & Indifferents left all to the Management of the Patriots, but expected all would be reversed.

9. Visited Rev. Mr. Eeles<sup>2</sup> of Glassenbury Chaplain of the Militia & just returned from N York. He says M<sup>r</sup> Webb told him, the Western Militia of Connecticut never mustered five Thousd at N York at a time. He is Muster M<sup>r</sup>—Aid de Camp—or an Officer near Gen. Washington. By conversing with people in general I find a light Degree of Discouragement sitting upon the Minds of

<sup>1</sup> David Howell. See above, June 7, 1769.

<sup>2</sup> John Eells (Yale 1755), pastor of the 1st Church in Glastonbury from 1759 to 1791.



the pple at large. It mortifies the Militia of Connecticut, as I found it did those of Massachusetts, that the Militia did not behave well at Landing of the Kings Troops on Ldsdy 15 Sept.—tho' better in the action of 16. All are lowered in their Opinion of the Militia (too much so I think) and are convinced our Deliverance cannot be effected by Militia. Providence is in this way reconciling us to a fixt & well constructed Army, at least for the present arduous Struggle. I saw several of the Ldsdy (Sep. 15) Retreat—for they were dismissed Service. The Landing was at Kips bay a little south of Turtle bay & about  $2\frac{1}{2}$  Miles from the City. One of the officers told me his Brigade Consisted of 600 Men—Col. Talcott told me the Body stationed around in that part were six Brigades which did not exceed three or 400 effective Men, equal to a Total of about *Two Thousand* Men, arranged from Horn hook to the bay below Turtle bay.

10. Visited Newport Refugee Friends at Middletown & rode to Meriden.

11. At New Haven—visited President Dagget, &c.

13. Ldsdy at Fairfield on visit to Sister Silliman. Two Reg<sup>ts</sup> about 800 Troops are stationed here & Mess<sup>rs</sup> Cleaveland and Sanford are Chaplains. Mr Cleaveland preached for Rev Mr Eliot A.M. and I preached P.M. 1 Cor. i, 9.

14. Last Even<sup>g</sup> acc<sup>d</sup> came to Fairfield that 6000 Kings Troops had landed at Frogspoint in W. Chester, friday or sat<sup>y</sup> last. There is considerable Motion among the Tories which are said to be a quarter of the pple west of Stratford River. Appearance of Conspiracy & Preparation for Insurrection; they express great Expectations that the Kings Troops will prevail. The Patriots & Friends of Liberty dont love to take violent Courses with them, but begin to think they must.

Major Lamb of N. York, is just returned from his Captivity at Quebec where he was taken when General Montgom<sup>y</sup> was slain. I saw him at Stratford. He lay on board ship at N. Y. some Time. He tells me the Regulars said on board his ship, they had lost *four hundred killed on L. Isld* besides wounded; which agrees with L<sup>d</sup> Howes say<sup>g</sup> that he had lost Eighteen hundred brave Men there—for if 400 were killed, 1800 were damaged; He also told me that an officer came on board Ldsdy Evng. (15. Sep) damning the Yankies for runaway Cowards, & storming that there was no Chance to fight & get honor & rise—he was in the Monday Action also, & came again

on board at Evening cursing & damning the War, saying he had found the Americans would fight, & that it would be impossible to conquer them.

16. At N Haven. Confirm<sup>a</sup> of Land<sup>g</sup> at Frogpoint. Visiting. Rode to Mr Darlings in Amity.<sup>1</sup>

17. At N H. News of Gen. Arnolds Repulse on Lake Champlain 11<sup>th</sup> Inst. or friday last. Gen Gates inclosed to Gov Trumbull, G. Arnolds Letter informing this, & also a List of Forces on that Lake—which Dr Carrington who read the Letter gave me from Memory as follows :

Oct. 11, 1776, Naval Action, Kings Fleet on Lake Champlain.

|                            |             |
|----------------------------|-------------|
| 1 Ship—                    | 16 Guns     |
| 1 Snow                     | 16 G.       |
| 1 Schooner                 | 14 G.       |
| 2 Do.                      | 12 G. each  |
| 2 Sloops                   | 1 Bombketch |
| 1 Large ship not in Action |             |

—  
9

20 to 30 Gundalos with an 18<sup>lb</sup> in each.

1000 Men in Batteaux—large Bodies of Indians on each Side the Lake.

American Fleet there :

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| 1 Sloop—12 Guns            |                       |
| 1 Schooner—12 G.           | lost 1 schooner 12 G. |
| 2 Schooners 8 G. each      | 2 Gondalas            |
| 10 Gundalas. 3 Row Gallies | 60 killed &c          |

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17

18. Gen. Assembly sitting at New Haven, Various Opinions as to the strength of our Armies. Both our Armies certainly more healthy, the Dysentery much abated. The most of the Western Militia of Connecticut returned—tho' great Complaints of Want of Men to gather in the Indian Harvest, which the Women do with great Alacrity.

Secret<sup>y</sup> Wyllys tells me Gen. Wadsworth carried with him Three Thousd from Connecticut. The middle of Sept. he says that G. Wash<sup>g</sup> had but seventeen Thousd effective Men: Sickness & Defection prevailed so much.

This day Secr<sup>y</sup> Wyllys tells me News from G. Wash<sup>g</sup> to last Tuesday—his Army in better State than ever. Commissary Trumbull just from thence says 28 Thousd:—Col. — says 30,000 be-

<sup>1</sup> Judge Thomas Darling (Yale 1740), Dr. Stiles's old College Tutor, lived in Amity Parish, now Woodbridge.

sides Ten Thousd on Jersey side. So it should seem we are 40 Thousd strong at N York, & increasing daily. Col. Wyllys says the Northern Army by late Returns appear to be Eleven Thousd at Ticonderoga, of which G. Gates informs *Nine Thousd are effective.*

Gen. Lee arrived at Kingsbridge Oct. 13. At President Daggets I this day saw the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Gordon of Roxbury return<sup>e</sup> from visiting the Camps at Ticonderoga & N York. He fears for the Northern Army; is easy for that at N York—he thinks G. Howe of the Kings army good for Execution, not skilful at planning,—and doubts the Generalship of any of their Officers—at least he thinks them not capital Characters.

When I was at Fairfield I saw Sloss Hobart<sup>1</sup> Esq a sensible Gent. & Member of the N. Y. Convention. He gave me the follow<sup>g</sup> Draught of the Action of 16 Sept. which began near the 14 M. stone & ended at the 8 M. stone.

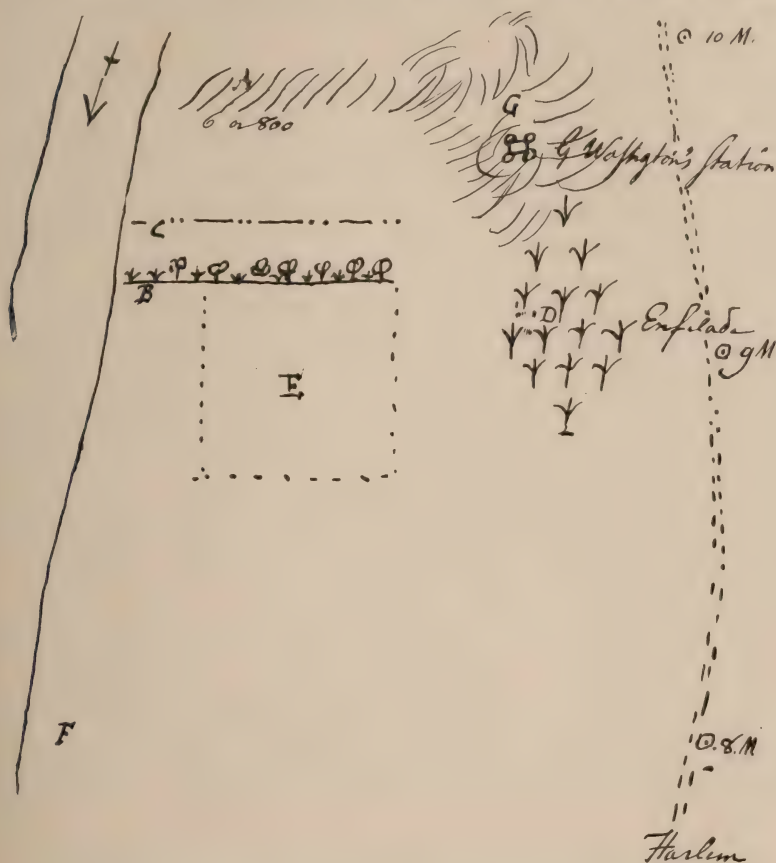
We have two General Clintons in our Army. From one of them who was in the Action M<sup>r</sup> Hobart received the account. Gen. Putnam and Gen. Greene commanded in the Action with about 15 to Eighteen hundred Men, the Enemy having in the action from 30 to 4500. Gen. Clinton & Gen. Mifflin were present in the action as Spectators. Gen. Clinton said he was ordered next day to bury the dead left on the Field, and buried 78 of the Enemy, the most of which fell in the Buck Wheatfield. He judged we lost 120 killed & wounded—the Enemy 400 killed besides wounded: but perhaps more probably less. Mr. Hobart saw one who escaped from Harlem, who told him that he counted 190 wounded of the Enemy in one barn, & 110 in another, so 300 wounded, and this not all. On the whole we fought well in this action.

Extract Letter dated Harlem seven miles from N. York Sept. 16, 1776.

“Yesterday was an unlucky day for us. The Enemy landed about ten o’Clock at Turtle bay below Hellgate, under cover of many Ships of War. The Brigade under Gen. Parsons were soon obliged to retire from the Waterside, & give ground for the Enemy to land. Gen. Mifflin immediately marched from Mount Washington with a thousd men, to the ground near & below this place; where he made a stand, threw up some Works, rallied our retreating Troops, & in an hour after had the principal part of our Army

<sup>1</sup> John Sloss Hobart (Yale 1757), son of the Rev. Noah Hobart, of Fairfield.

(who were stationed below us) drawn up in good order on the heights. Generals Putnam & Scott were in N York, but made their Way thro' the Enemys Line with all their Men & the Guards



EXPLANATION (by Dr. Stiles) OF DIAGRAM.

- A. The North side of a Hollow way where the Action began.
- B. Fence, behind which the Enemy rallied the first time.
- C. Fence, from whence our People attacked the Enemy at B, 150 yards apart.
- D. No Field pieces, but Virginia detachment, which enfiladed the Enemy.
- E. Buckwheat field, where the Enemy rallied a second time, & an Action ensued for  $1\frac{1}{2}$  hour when the Enemy fled, and attempting to rally in an Orchard at

F, were so closely pursued, that they stood but a few minutes, when the Rout became general.



of the City.—Three days since it was resolved to quit the Town, & we have been removing ever since. We have taken almost everything out of the City, but lost some Canon & Stores. New York never was tenable, & the holding of it obliged us to divide our Army into many weak parts.”

On the night of 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. the City of New York was in flames—about one quarter [sixth] of the City is consumed. The Regulars ascribe it to the New Engld Captives. Probably an accident. . . .

19. This Morning Mr Sam<sup>l</sup> Adams, the eminent Patriot passed thro’ New Haven in his Return to Congress. I visited my aged Mother & Friends at North Haven : rode to Wallingford & lodged at Dr Dana’s.

20. Ldsdy. I preached for Brother Hubbard at Meriden. . . . This Morning Express for New Haven, advises that Gen. Arnolds Fleet is intirely routed on the Lake.

22. One left F<sup>t</sup> Constitution last friday (18) says the Kings Troops are casting up Lines at the Stone Chh in New Rochelle & within about seven miles of Kingsbridge—that an Action has happened, Col. Shepard in it. Yesterday it was said at New Haven there were five ships off Fairfield. I set out with my Daughter Kezia on return for Dighton, & rode to Middletown. This day I have been ordained 21 years.

23. A day or Season of Prayer at Middletown in Mr. Huntingtons Congregation. I preached. News of an Insurrection of 1500 Tories who have taken Arms for the King in Dutchess County N York. Gov. Trumbull & the Assembly of Connecticut have ordered Forces to march immediately, and the Troop of Horse in Middletown are preparing to march to morrow, to suppress them. . . . .

24. Journeying, my Daughter Kezia with me return<sup>e</sup> from Meriden. Hartford troop marched this day.

25. At Ashford I saw a Teamster who left the Army at N. York last Monday Evening ; and travelled yesterday from Northaven to Windham on foot, & by X this Forenoon to Ashford Meeting-house. He says a Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of the Enemy landed at Maroneck & destroyed one of our Magazines or Stores.

27. Ldsdy. We kept Sabbath at Rehoboth where I preached for Mr. Hide A.M. Heb. i, 3. Mr. Learned preached in the afternoon.

28. We arrived at Dighton & found my family well. Deo Grates.

30. My son Ezra returned for Yale College, from Dighton.

November.

1. I am reading the New Testament in Syriac.

2. . . . . Extract of a Letter from London 19 May shewing the Plan of this Campaign.—“The 7<sup>th</sup> of April Gen. Burgoyne, with Col. Phillips & Capt Foy (who commanded the Artillery at Minden) 2500 Brunswickers & the 21<sup>st</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> sailed from Plymouth; the same day the 9<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, 53<sup>d</sup> & 63<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> sailed from Cork to joyn Gen. Burgoyne; this force amounts to 7000 effective Men, well supplied with Ammunition, field Artillery, Waggons & Boats ready to put together, and are gone to Quebec; if they do not find Work eno<sup>r</sup> in Canada, they are to invade N. York & N. Engl<sup>d</sup> over the Lakes. There are now (May 3) 6000 Hessians at Portsmouth, & are expected to sail every day, with 1000 of the Guards & 3000 Highlanders consisting of Gen. Frasers two Battalions just raised, & L<sup>d</sup> Jn<sup>n</sup> Murrays old Reg<sup>t</sup>, tho<sup>r</sup> it is not certain they will get entirely at Sea till they are joyned by the Remainder of the Hessians &c to the amount of 7 or 8000. It is not probable that this Armam<sup>t</sup> will reach America before the last of July. L<sup>d</sup> Howe, who commands the Sea Departm<sup>t</sup>, went to Portsm<sup>o</sup> yesterday to embark; he will hardly reach till the last of June. Gen. Howes Army will consist of 20 or 25,000 Men, well officered & provided with an excellent Train of Artillery &c. Tho<sup>r</sup> we hear Gen. Howe is gone to Hallifax, yet the Moment he is reinforced he will go to N York, and after reducing that Colony, they are to make an Attempt to get to Philadelphia, for which purpose it has been advised by some Clergymen & Scotchmen from Maryland to send a Body of Troops up Chesapeak Bay, to land at Annapolis or Chestertown, and so march by land to Philadelphia: This plan is referred to Gen Howe to execute if he thinks proper. Administration have adopted the Rule of send<sup>g</sup> Troops to those Colonies where they have the most Friends, & they say for this year nothing can be done in the four N Engd Provinces, as the pple there are so unanimous; but they expect before Xmas to have a good Acc<sup>o</sup> of N York, Maryland & N<sup>o</sup> Carolina, & have some hopes even of getting possession of Virginia & Philadelphia: Nothing they say can prevent their Success, but the Thirteen United Colonies declaring themselves intirely independent of this Country, which Event most pple here think will certainly take place, as soon as the last prohibitory Bill gets over.

Should America this spring declare Independence, it is most cer-

tain that France & many other Powers of Europe will give her immediate Assistance, if applied to, which no power will attempt to do while the Americans stile themselves subjects of the King of Great Britain. The Ministry are fully sensible of this, therefore by cajoling & making Friends in some of the southern Colonies, they hope to create Divisions & prevent such a decided Step being taken *this year*; and, by the Operations of this present Campaign, *they expect to be so successful as to make it too hazardous for foreign powers to interfere*. The Commission which L<sup>d</sup> Howe carries over, is in fact nothing more than to receive the submission of the Colonies, but he is instructed to *talk much of Reconciliation on honorable terms*; this it is tho't with the Aid of *secret Influence*, for which he has unlimited powers, especially with the Colonies which at present seem most averse to Indep<sup>y</sup>, will *create Divisions in the Congress, & among the people at large*, so as to prevent the further success of their Operations this year. Indeed the *Ministry are more alarmed at the apprehension of America declaring herself independent than anything else*, because they have been given to understand by most of the powers of Europe, particularly by France & Prussia, that in such a Case they shall think themselves at Liberty to act as best suits themselves. But the Truth is the King is so determined on the *unconditional Subjugation* of America (the present Court phrase) that it is certain he will risque the utter Ruin of the whole Empire, rather than not succeed in what he has set his heart so much upon.

The 21<sup>st</sup> of May Col Guy Johnson, with the two Indian Chiefs that he bro't over last summer is to sail in a packet from Falm<sup>o</sup> to N. York; his Errand is, if possible, to rouse the Six Nations of Indians to War, & also the Canadian Indians, against the Colonies; he is to make his Way as soon as he can into the Indian Country &c.

It is expected by the Min'y. that the *delusory Propositions* which L<sup>d</sup> Howe is directed to make (& for his Authority he is said to have something of a Letter from under the Kings hand) will have the effect of confound<sup>s</sup> and divid<sup>s</sup> or at least of perplexing the Councils & Measures of the Congress, while by a vigorous Exertion of the Army & Navy in various parts this Campaign, so much Advantage may be gained as to ensure the intire Reduction of America next year; for you may be assured that nothing but unconditional Subjugation will ever be accepted by the King—*therefore pay no more attention than what is necessary for your own Purposes to any*



*Propositions of Reconciliation that may be made by L<sup>d</sup> & Gen Howe.* All the Germans that have gone over went with the Idea that they were to aid their Countrymen in America against the Savages, therefore &c. America must expect to undergo a ten years War, & perhaps a total Defeat at last, if she does not declare *immediate Independence.*" . . . .

This was the plan committed to L<sup>d</sup> Howe. Upon his Arrival into America last Summer he published a delusory Invit<sup>n</sup> to Peace. It had no Effect.—Afterwards L<sup>d</sup> Drummond in the fleet drafted a Sketch of Propositions dated 12 Aug<sup>t</sup> consisting of six Articles; purporting a Sum for each Colony to pay to the King as a Revenue to be raised by duties & Taxes on Articles keeping pace with the Increase of the Colonies; the produce of which Taxes to be a perpetual Grant by the respective Assemblies to the Crown of Great Britain—and that Parliament shall not invade Amer. property, "but a formal Relinquishment shall be made, on the part of G. B. of all future Claim to Taxation over these her Colonies."—That however for regulating Commerce Parl<sup>t</sup> may lay Duties, but to be rendered into the 'Treas<sup>y</sup> of each Colony & to be at the Disposal of the Houses of Assembly.

. . . . . The ministerial Indian Agents from Florida to Canada have succeeded so far, as to raise 500 & not to exceed a Thousd. Indians at the northward who have joyned Burgoyne & Carleton—and the Cherokees at the Southward.

. . . . . The greatest Assiduity has been used by our enemies to excite Indians, Negroes &c against us. They tho't the Indians numerous & formidable, I think them not so.

3. Ldsdy. A.M. at Dighton I preached on Heb. xi, 27. P.M. Ps. cxix, 57. . . .

4. Account of Action on Long Isl'd, Aug<sup>t</sup> last from a Spectator in a Letter dated Sept. 14, 1776. "On 23<sup>d</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> before day the Enemy began to land a Body of Troops at Utretch. The morning was foggy. They were discovered to be still landing after sunrise. By about ten o'Clock they reached Flat Bush, where they were met by a Body of our pple who skirmished with them to advantage. After that we kept a Picket Guard of fifteen hundred men between *Flat Bush & Brockland* in the Woods & on Eminences, who were continually skirmishing with the Enemy.—From the southernmost part of the Bay below Bushwick . . . down to the Creek running up to & by Brockland, were our Lines & Forts by which we had



enclosed a Tract of Land to the Westward next to N. York.—Our Lines fronted the East. On the left near the lowest part of the above described bay was Fort *Putnam*, near the middle F<sup>t</sup> *Green*, and towards the Creek F<sup>t</sup> *Box*: the whole were composed of Forts, Redoubts, Breastworks, &c.

On Monday night about five thousand of the Enemy, with fifty or 60 Light horse, filed off to the right up to Bushwick, crossing the Land & making a circuit to avoid our advance posts, with a Design of falling upon our Left. We had made the Rodes leading to our Lines from the different adjacent Towns quite inconvenient or unsafe. A *heavy Detachment marched on Tuesday morning before day from the Narrows to attack our advanced Guards* on that Quarter, & on coming up with began to engage them. On that *Ld Stirling went off with about twelve hundred men to support them.* Ere he arrived the Enemy Landed a Body of about *three Thousd* in the small Bay just below the Mouth of the Creek: which obliged him to form his men into *two Lines*, meeting in an obtuse Angle, one *stretching up to the Creek between the Regulars & Brockland*, the other leading away from that where it formed the Angle towards Flat Bush & was joined by a Number of the picket Guard. *L<sup>d</sup> Stirling began to engage the Enemy a little after sunrise.* About 2 hours after that, between IX & X, the *five Thousd that had marched all night, & taken a Circuit to Bushwick*, fell upon the Rear of our North Rode Picket Guard under Gen. Parsons, which occasioned another Body of our Men under Gen. Sullivan to advance that way with a View of supporting them. A great part of the N<sup>o</sup> Rode Picket Guard fought their Way down to the Creek. The Hessians marched over the Flatbush Plains and formed a middle Line in such a Direction as to prevent G. Sullivans getting into our Lines in the usual Way: and his Men were therefore obliged to cross the Creek at the upper part, next to a Mill Dam. *L<sup>d</sup> Stirlings Men* after having fought a long while forded the Mouth of the Creek next to the Bay: when the five Thousd had got down to the right of our Lines next to the Creek, they made an attack *but were repulsed.* The Line between Box fort & the Creek was not completed the day before. There was an opening adjoining to the Creek, which it was tho't the Enemy was acquainted with; for when they came to it, & found the Entrance closed with a Breast Work and other Defences, they appeared confounded, however *they made the attack with one Parly*, and then *with another*, supposed with a View chiefly of

carrying off the dead & wounded under cover of the fire ; our pple found afterwards about a hundred packs. My Informer rode down to the Troops in this part of the Line with a message from an officer more to the left who saw the Movement of the Enemy, intimating his apprehension that they would be attackt, & they were in Immediate Readiness. The Enemy proposing to cut off and make Prisoners as many of our men as possible, pressed hard upon them : we had great numbers in a salt marsh near the Creek, who were fired upon without having more than one killed. The Enemys fire did but little Execution, the Balls flying generally over the heads of our people. Several of our men having no Chance of escaping otherwise betook themselves to the Woods & afterwds came in. When the Engagement began our Lines were thinly manned, but some Regiments being called in & others bro't over from York, there was a sufficient Number before an Attack could be made. *All our Troops, to whatever Colony belonging, behaved admirably well ;* & I apprehend have given such Specimens of true Bravery, as will if possible be a stronger proof of our real Courage, than Breed's (generally miscalled Bunkers) Hill Engagement. Gen. Sullivan & L<sup>d</sup> Stirling were taken Prisoners. General (the noted Colonel who reprobated the Americans as not having a single Quality of the good Soldier) Grant, and Gen. [Jones] were killed on the part of the Enemy. We lost six field pieces including 2 Howitzers : Our Artillery Men behaved heroically. [Four Southern Reg<sup>ts</sup> suffered a large Body of the Enemy to advance upon them till within about thirty yards, owing to their having their Firelocks club'd. Upon their being told that if they came forward they should be fired upon, & being required to declare their design, they presented & fired as soon as possible ; our people returned it & kept up such a fire as obliged them to fall back.] Gen. Howes plan seems to have been well laid. Apprehend that he was in hopes of drawing out the Body of our Troops from the Lines, *by attacking our Picket Guards in the Neighborhood of Flatbush ;* and that being done, *to get into our Lines by means of the 5000 he marched to Bushwick ;* or of surrounding & overpowering those that were out of the Lines, should he not succede to the utmost of his Wishes. An Assailant with a superior force, as was the Case with Howe, has greatly the advantage, being Master of his own plan, whereas the opposing party must act wholly conjecturally in defending themselves & resisting the Enemy. Notwithstanding which, the Resolution & Prudence of

the Provincials baffled the European Generals, & thro' the kind interposition of Heaven blasted their intended triumph over the Yankees.

On *Wednesday in a heavy Shower of Rain the Enemy attackt our Lines between F<sup>t</sup> Putnam & F<sup>t</sup> Green*; our Men were directed & readily complied, to lie upon the ground with their Bodies over their Firelocks, so that the Enemy got repulsed.

His Excell<sup>y</sup> Gen. Washington observing a Movem<sup>t</sup> in the Fleet & suspecting that there was a design of cutting off the Communic<sup>a</sup> with the City, without which our forces could not be supported many days, & considering that on the Land side we were shut within our Lines, most wisely *concluded upon evacuating the Isld*; He concealed his Intention while he got the Boats &c ready, and on the Thursday was over with them in the Evening about seven o'Clock. The Brigades were ordered to be in Readiness with Bag & Baggage to march at such a Time, but knew not for where or what; the second did not know where the first was gone, nor the third the second; the last marched off at the firing of the three o'Clock Gun on Friday Morning. Providence favoured us. The Night was remarkably still; the Water was as smooth as Glass, so that all our Boats went over safe, tho' many of them were but about three Inches out of Water. At Sunrise a great Fog came up. The Enemy did not discover that we had evacuated our Lines, till we were all over.

Governors Isl'd was evacuated at the same time. We left behind upon both Islds about half a dozen large Guns. Three or 4 men are missing who came off in a Batteau. This Evacuation is a Masterpiece—vastly superior to Howes Conduct when he evacuated Boston. One or other Brother (it may be both) has Candor eno' to own that it will make a figure in History. *The Killed wounded & miss from the Returns made last Tuesday se'nnight fall short of five hundred.* Most of the missing are prisoners. We have heard of some's getting to the E. End of L. Isld & from thence crossing the Sound, so that the Number will be reduced to a little more than 400. The Enemys Loss is said to be from a Thousd to Two Thousd. [Have been told that *their Killed* amount to *more than five hundred*, which is not to be wondered at considering that all ours are Marksmen; & if so their killed and wounded must be far towards 2000.] On Friday or Saturday (the first my Informer thinks) a N<sup>o</sup> of ships came up to the place, which it was



tho't they meant to occupy in order to cut off the Communication. May we not say in the Language of the sacred Writer, *our soul is escaped as a Bird out of snare &c.* We are bound to, & I trust we shall always honor the Instruments; but as it is the Inspiration of the M. High that giveth Underst<sup>d</sup>, let God have the Chief Glory. *Our People were about Twelve Thous'd.* when they left the Islds; the Enemy 'twas thought about *Eighteen.*" End of the Letter.

In the beginning of it—"The chief & best of my Inform<sup>a</sup> I received yesterday morning from a Brother by Profession who was upon the Isl'd most of the summer, knows all the Ground in the Neighbourhood of the Fortifications, *was on Horseback within our Lines, with a Glass & his naked Eye saw most of the proceedings,* & heard hundreds of the Enemy's shot fly over his head. What is *not from him* and that he could not confirm, tho' he did not deny, I shall *enclose in Crotchets.*"

5. Removing from Mr. Whitmarsh's to Mr. Wrights House in Dighton. Rumour of an Action at New York Ldsdy before last.

7. There is a French House or Merchants Store opened at Philad<sup>a</sup> in Connexion with a House at Nantz in France, for European Goods. The Merchants of those Houses have written circular Letters to the Committees of Safety &c thro' the Colonies, and sent one to the Gen. Assembly of Rh'd Isl'd, which was publicly read in the Assembly last Week, inviting their Trade, and offering, if any Colony or State wanted French Bills of Exchange, that they would draw on France & take Continental Currency in pay for the Bills & Commerce.

Sundry French Gent. are arrived at Dartm<sup>o</sup>, Newbury &c. —bound for Congress—& say, France offers Ten Ships of the Line & two Millions of Louis d'ors in Clothing for the Army, to be lent to the Amer. States, to be paid at the End of the War, & then rec<sup>d</sup> in Amer. *Produce*: conditioned that we shall give them our Trade—Quaere whether they mean an exclusive Limitation of our Trade to France? if so, let the Offer be rejected.

Letters from some Members of Congress to Rh. Isl'd. Assembly inform, that Congress have issued already Cont. Currency to Am<sup>o</sup> of *Twelve Millions* of Dollars, & don't intend to excede 20 Millions. Rather thus. Judge Green is just returned from Phil<sup>a</sup>, sent thither by the Assembly to receive large sums of Money from the Congress. There are two continental Treasurers. He asked one the Am<sup>o</sup> of the Currency? observing that it had been said to be enormous,



some said 30, 40 to 70 Mill. Dollars. He told him that he had not issued or delivered Seven Millions, and that his Brother Treasurer had not emitted so many—so that the whole was thus estimated at *Thirteen Million Dollars*. This Judge Green informed the Assembly: and that Congress had determined not to proceed beyond Twenty Million Dollars, & this to be the *standing Currency of the Continent*; and that Congress had erected a Loan Office in each State, and appointed Mr. Treasurer Clarke in the State of Rh. Isld, to borrow Money at 4 per Cent. This it is supposed will draw in eno' of the said 20 M—for continental annual Use.

In a late sensible publication in the Prints which by some Tokens I ascribe to Dr. Ben. Franklin, it is estimated, that there are *Two hundred Millions* of Acres within the present inhabited parts of the United States, worth 1 Doll. or 2 or 3 Doll. at a medium per acre, And the Stock & personal Estate as much more. So far he: I add, It seems thus that American Property at the lowest Rate may be estimated at 4 or 500 Million Dollars, or 100 Million sterling—at a higher but not excessive Rate of 2 or 3 doll. per acre, 250 Millions sterling, or about one Quarter of the whole Property of G. Britain; which in Lands, personal Estate & Commerce is given at 1000 or not to exceed *Eleven hundred Millions Sterling*. This sustains a National Debt or Credit of 150 Millions. Whereas it is intended the American Credit shall not exceed 4 or five Millions sterling, and yet we can now sustain 40 Mill. Sterling, as well as G. B. 150. The Property of G. B. is at a stop, American Property in rapid Increase by Population & Settlement & giving value to new Lands, & thus *creating property*; so that 20 y. hence we may be able to sustain 80 Mill. Debt. So that if the War for Independence generate a Debt of 20 Mill. Sterling (& hitherto it is not, say, three Mill. sterling) yet the Prize of Liberty will be well purchased.

We are obliged to estimate the Enemys Force, partly by collecting accounts of Arrivals of Transports, partly by casual Transpirations of the Ministerial Plan last Winter—and, tho' coming to us at distance of Time & Place and in much Confusion, yet so to digest and combine them together by harmonizing some Facts with Plan & Theory to infer other parts of the System & so to investigate the whole System. At the day before yesterday I inserted what I conceive good Information. Upon Retrospect to a Provid. print of 18 May ult at English or Lond. News to 14 Feb<sup>y</sup> ult. I am at loss

whether I have copied it before.—“L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis is now ready to sail from Cork with *three thous'd* Men for Virginia to meet G. Clinton.”—N B. All did not arrive in time. However it shews we are not to reckon the Junction of the Southern Armament when it came northward, to have augmented G. Howe more than 2 or 3000,—“They reckon upon paper to have an Army of *thirty thousand*, mostly Germans, in America in June. Burgoyne is to retake Canada with Ten Thousand Men.—Possibly there may be in the whole 30 or 35 Thousd effective men in America in 1776. The 15 31 35 37 54 55<sup>th</sup> & 57<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> (viz 7 Reg<sup>ts</sup> say equal 3000 Men) are now embarked at Cork to sail with L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis, under Sir Peter Parker Commander by sea, for Virginia.”

This Mornng we have News from the Army at N York. The Kings Troops have penetrated it is said to Kingsbridge & forced our Troops to leave the Isl'd of N. York & retire this side Kingsbridge. There was much Action & Skirmishes on 27<sup>th</sup> & 28<sup>th</sup> Oct.—L<sup>d</sup> Stirling was forced from some Heights he had occupied. Our Army are around & without the Kings. We left fifteen hundred Men at F<sup>t</sup> Washington with six Months Provisions & Stores, having evacuated the rest of the Isl'd. The Enemy have made three Attacks upon it by Shipping & Troops—We repulsed them each time. We also hear that G. Burgoyne or the Army at Crownp<sup>t</sup> had landed there & Attacked our Army at Ticonderoga, & that we had repulsed them and pursued them back to Crownpoint. How much of this News will prove true, must be left to further Intelligence. Also a Body of our Forces (among the rest Col. Richmonds Rh. Isld Reg<sup>t</sup>) under Col. Livingston crossed from Connecticut over to L. Isld—had an Action with a party of Col. Oliver Delancy & his Brigade of Long Isld Traitors and prevailed against them, killing 8 and captivating 30 or 40 &c &c.

8. Setting out for Newport . . . . .

10. Ldsdy A M. I preached in my own Congregation, Rom. v. 21. Col. Cushings Regiment present. P M. Mr. Read the Chaplain preached.

11. . . . .

EXTRACTS FROM PHILAD<sup>A</sup> LETTERS—W<sup>M</sup> ELLERY ESQ

“PHILAD<sup>A</sup> Oct 5, 1776

—Gen. Miffin—told me that our Men behaved bravely in the Action (16 Sep.). That we lost about one hundred killed & wounded, and the Enemy from the field of Battle & the Accounts he could rely on about 400 killed & wounded.”

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> 21 Sept.

—"The Enemy's Party consisted of Two Battalions and three Companies."

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> OCT. 11.

—"Some of our pple did indeed run from the Enemy when they landed at Turtle Bay (Sep. 15)—the very next day some of those very men fought gallantly. I have this from Gen. Mifflin & David Hopkins, who saw the Fight; and they both agree in saying that from the best acc<sup>t</sup> they could get & from the appear<sup>e</sup> of the field of Battle, the Enemy lost killed & wounded in that fight between *4 and five hundred Men*; & we had K. & W. the former says about 100, the latter say—not so many. Our Troops drove them off the Field when the numbers on both sides were equal.—At present a defensive War seems to be most prudent. A few days past two 40 G. ships with several Tenders passed Fort *Washington* without any Difficulty, & were between that & *Constitution* F<sup>t</sup> the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant.

"Gen. Lee arrived here last Monday (7 Oct.) & set off for Camp last Wedn<sup>y</sup>. He brot us the good News that the Carolineans had utterly defeated the Cherokee Indians, had burnt their Towns, killed Two hundred & fifty of their Warriors, got seventy-five Scalps, & drove the Remainder of that Tribe to the Mississippi. The Creeks are friendly, & have not, to their Joy I believe entered into the War. The Enemy is stronger at Augustine than we imagined. The Garrison consists of *Eighteen Hundred Germans*, & *One Thousd British Troops*. The Governor of Georgia hath ordered the stock to be moved off the Islds.—There are two Sloops at Georgia the *Raven* & *Sphinx*; one keeps Savanna River, while the other cruises along the Coast. I heard from a good hand this day, that the *Scorpion*, *Falcon* & *Cruiser* were in C. Fear.

I wish our Frigates were equipt."

"WILLIAM ELLERY."

GEN. GREENS LETT. 4 OCT.

Speaking of the Enemy's Landing near Turtle Bay & tak<sup>e</sup> possess<sup>n</sup> of the City of N. Y. 15 Sept.—"The Panic that struck Gen. Fellows's & communicated itself to Gen. Parsons's Brigade, disgraced the last Retreat. The 2 Brigades run away from about 40 or fifty Men, & left Gen. Washington standing alone within an hundred yards of the Enemy. This disagreeable Circumstance made the last Retreat very disgraceful. The Enemy next day at Harlem Heights, flushed with the Successes of the day before, approached and attacked our Lines, where I had the Honor to Command.—The Action or rather Skirmish lasted about two hours; our people beat the Enemy off the Ground.—Col. Varnum & Col. Hitchcocks Reg<sup>ts</sup> behaved exceedingly spirited & all the officers that were with the Regiments. The Colonels were both absent. Had all the Colonies good Officers, there is no danger of the Troops; never was Troops that would stand in the Field longer than the American Soldiery. If the officers were as good as the Men, & had only a few months to form the Troops by Discipline, America might bid Defiance to the whole World.—Gen. Putnam & the Adj<sup>t</sup> General were in the Action & behaved nobly."



It is said in Gen. Mifflin's Lett. of about 23 Oct. that a Deserter informs, a Canon Shot killed a Centinel & shattered Gen. Howes Leg so that his Life is doubtful.

Oct 12 1776—died Rev<sup>d</sup> Edward Eells æt. 64 Min<sup>y</sup> 39. Pastor of 2<sup>d</sup> Chh in Middletown in Connecticut Son of Rev. Mr Elles of Scituate, Massachusetts, born there Janry. 3, 1713, O. S. Educated at Harv. College; ordained Sep. 6, 1738.

12. Still at Newport. The Action at F<sup>t</sup> Wash. 26 & 27<sup>th</sup> ult. was greater than at first reported;—said 800 Enemy killed, & a day & half in burying. Yet uncertain.

It has been computed that this War, by Prizes, building Ships of War, & the Navy, has already within a year & half, brought into Providence One Million & a quarter of Dollars or near *Three hundred Thousd Sterling*; which is double the Property of the whole Town two years ago in Houses, Shipping, Goods, &c, &c, &c.

It is estimated there are about *four hundred Sail of Ships* a year from all the English West Indies to Europe. The begin<sup>g</sup> of Oct. last the Americans had taken *Two hundred & six* Prizes from the British Navigation, of which some estimate 150 Jamaica & Eng. W. Indies. Of 35 to 40 Prizes brot into Providence five sixths W. India Vessels, or all but two or three.

The T<sup>o</sup> of Providence have drawn & rec<sup>d</sup> of the Continental Treasury above one hundred Thousd Pounds L.M. for they negotiate all the Rh. Isld Affairs for Army & Navy. Two Ships or Frigates built there cost £35,000 L. M each & more. But one of our Men o'War the Cabot has taken six prizes worth 60 Th. Dolls each: Total three hundred Thousd Dollars—more than eno' to pay for the two newbuilt Ships. One of those prizes had 600 Hhds Sugar (Sales 10 Doll. Cwt.) worth 130 Doll  $\text{p}$  Hhd—& 90 Punchcons of Rum worth £50 each. Sales 1½ Doll. Gallon.

. . . . . News at Newport this Eveng. that Gen. Carletons Army had embarked & left Crownpoint; & also that last Wednesday (Nov. 6) Gen. Howe had struck Tents & left E. Chester & White Plains, & that the Kings Troops were embarking at N. York. This bro't by one who left our Lines last Thursday or 7<sup>th</sup> Inst Nov. Uncertain.

. . . . . Lately died at Long Isld. Cadwallader Colden Esq aged Ninety years.—L<sup>t</sup> Gov N. York—an old Sinner, in the Scotch Rebellion 1715, an avowed Enemy to American Liberty thro' a long political Life, a haughty Tyrant. He affected to be a Friend to



Literature, & wrote & I think printed a Piece to overthrow the Newtonian Philosophy—I saw & perused it. He had a superlative Contempt for American Learning.

' 13. Dined at Cap<sup>t</sup> Tophams, who is lately returned from Captivity in Quebec, where he was taken when Gen. Montgomery was killed. He gave me an Account of the Attack on the Morn<sup>g</sup> of 31 Dec. last —& also of the March of Col Arnolds Party across the Wilderness. He shewed me his Journal.' From which & from Conversation I collected these Memorabilia.

The 9<sup>th</sup> Sep. 1775 & for several days Col. Arnolds Detachment were preparing & going off from Cambridge; where some of them still were 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. and the last Battalion did not march from Cambridge till Sep. 13 for Newburyport.

The whole consisted of 2 Battalions, containing 1130 Men all Volunteers. One commanded by L<sup>t</sup> Col. Green (in which Cap<sup>t</sup> Toph.) being 7 Companies of 84 Men each; the other by Lieut. Col. Enoe six companies 84 each. Col. Arnold Commander & Mr. Springer Chaplain.

They sailed from Newburyport Sept. 19, at IX<sup>h</sup>. At II<sup>h</sup> Signal for sail— for Kenebec—saw Isle Sholes—fog at X & signal for heav<sup>y</sup> too. 20<sup>th</sup> at daybreak saw none of fleet, at VI made Seguin Isld—bore away for Shepscut & went on shore for pilot. 21<sup>st</sup> at II P. M. came into Kenebec R. where Col. Arnold came on board. At Gardners T<sup>o</sup> 200 Battoes prepared.—23 at F<sup>t</sup> Western, 27 at F<sup>t</sup> Halifax. Oct. 1, march<sup>g</sup> towds Noridgwoak—Oct. 2 Indian Altar &c. Last Inhab. till reach Sartegan. Third Carry<sup>g</sup> place. Oct. 5, Carrytunk Falls. 7. Killed Moose 600 lb.—Oct. 16, very short of Provisions & brot. to one Half pint of flour for each Man. Oct. 19, Major Meigs with his Division proceeded towards Chaudier River. N. B. The whole in 4 Divisions of 250 each. Oct. 21, Major Bigelow being sent back returned with only two Bbs of Flour. Oct. 24, delivered out the last provision. Oct. 25, L<sup>t</sup> Col Green Capt Topham & Thayer stay by Desire of Col. Eno to hold a Council of War. *Resolved that Col. Enoe should not go back.* But he afterwards returned with the whole of his Division, viz. Cap<sup>ts</sup> Williams, Scott, & McCobb. —The rest proceeded forw'd. Oct. 28. Express from Col. Arnold bro't glad Tidings &c—to pple brought to one pint of flour & no meal. "To day we rec<sup>d</sup> the last Pork left in the Detatchm<sup>t</sup> about *two*

<sup>1</sup> For an account of the various Journals of this expedition, see Winsor's *Narrative and Critical Hist. of America*, vi, 219-20.

ounces  $\frac{1}{2}$  man." Had no more than five days Provision. A Pilot sent us. Express for his Excell<sup>y</sup> Gen. Washington passed us. Oct. 29, On our Way to Sartigan. Nov. 1, a Dog killed & eat &c &c. Nov. 2. "I have been now fourty eight hours without Victuals." —3. Met a party with Beef & oatmeal—Came to first house. 6. Came to a Chh. 8. St. Marys Chh small Bell. 9. S<sup>t</sup> Areys Parish. Nov. 10. Arrived at P<sup>t</sup> Levy & found Col. Arnold. 14. Crossed S<sup>t</sup> Lawrence River & marched within 80 Rds of the Walls of Quebec.

Thus left Cambridge 13 Sep. arrived at P<sup>t</sup> Levy 10<sup>th</sup> Nov. Perhaps Col Arnold with the advanced Division might reach thither a few days sooner.

#### AT QUEBEC.

Express received 20 Nov. from G. Montgomery: acc<sup>t</sup> that G. Carleton had quitted Montreal. 23. Col. Arnold called a Council of War to examine the "Conduct of Col Enoe and those who returned without his Consent."—Nov. 19 Quebec had 8 or 900 Men in it—Return of our Amunition "not to exceed five Rounds per man." Dec. 2. G. Montgomery arrived.

#### STATE OF THINGS AT THE ATTACK DEC. 31, 1775.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Topham judges Total within the City 1400 Men. Total of our Army 1200, sick & well. Plan of the Attack.—Gen. Mont<sup>g</sup> with York Troops &c to enter the City by Way of C. Diamond; Col. Livingston with the Canadians to make a false attack on F<sup>t</sup> Diamond & at S<sup>t</sup> Jno s Gate: & Col. Arnold to enter the N<sup>o</sup> Side of the City by Palace Gate. Gen. Montgomery had about 400 & Col. Arnold 400.

On the night of the 30<sup>th</sup> Dec. being very stormy Snow & sleet &c they were drawn up in Readiness. Col. Arnold was to wait the Signal of Sky Rockets from the General, but never saw any. The General passed round Cape Diamond, pulled down with his own hand a Pallisado Obstacle, & paraded on Drummonds Wharf. Each Party had to face four Canon ranged along streets in their front. The first Shot killed the General. Col. Arnold hearing the Fireing judged the Action begun—& began his part, marching in the above order, & receiving the fire of Musquetry from the Line along the hill over them, with one of which he was wounded & carried back after he had entered the City—the party marched up





& proceed to another Barrier without Canon, and there imprisoned the Men near the Sailors Leap. This attack was an hour before day of the Morn<sup>g</sup> of 31<sup>st</sup> of December 1775. These brave Heroes thus entered the Lower Town—and proceeded to a strong & high Barrier a little East of the ascent Passage into the Upper Town, & there about day attempted that Barrier. Here they expected to meet Gen. Montgomery. But found it strongly crouded with the Enemy—they repeatedly attempted but were repulsed. They then tho't of returning but the Enemy had so barred and guarded the Way that it was impossible. After continuing in possession of the lower Town for several hours, Col Green at X<sup>h</sup> A M of the same day surrendered with his Party Prisoners.

Had Col. Campbell (on whom the command devolved after the Generals Death) proceeded, as he ought to have done, the City might probably have been taken. But he instantly gave up & drew off his Party. . . . .

14. Still at Newport. News various. It is said the Enemy have taken & carried to Halifax a Congress Vessel from France with 40 Th. Dollars. Doubtful. . . . .

15. There is given in the B<sup>o</sup> Prints 31 Oct. a List of *seventy* British Ships of War on the American Station, besides half a doz. Bombs &c. About 25 or 30 are at N. York.

The Kings Forces left in Nova Scotia were Aug. 13, 1776

|                                                                          |                 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Halifax, 2 Battal. of Marines . . . . .                                  | 900 Rank & file |
| Invalids. . . . .                                                        | 100             |
| Artillery Men . . . . .                                                  | 12              |
| 1 Comp <sup>a</sup> 14 <sup>th</sup> Regt . . . . .                      | 47 Rank & file  |
| Do Highlanders Emigrants . . . . .                                       | 39 Do           |
| <hr/>                                                                    |                 |
| 1098 & 5 Vessels of War                                                  |                 |
| Kings C <sup>o</sup> Royal Highl'd Emigrants . . . . .                   | 237 R. & file   |
| Cumberl'd C <sup>o</sup> Royal fencible Americans }<br>deserting apace } | 272 Do          |
| <hr/>                                                                    |                 |
| 1507                                                                     |                 |

Say, in Sep<sup>t</sup> 1776, the Kings Forces at

|                        |        |
|------------------------|--------|
| N. York . . . . .      | 25,000 |
| Canada . . . . .       | 8,000  |
| Nova Scotia . . . . .  | 1,500  |
| The Floridas . . . . . | 2,800  |
| <hr/>                  |        |
| 37,300                 |        |

16. Mr Hewes last Week left Philad<sup>a</sup> & arrived at Newport this Morn<sup>g</sup>. He tells that riding on the West side of Hudsons River, he looked over at Dobbs Ferry & saw Gen. Hows Army at the Ferry. Mr Hewes crossed Hudsons River last Sabbath (Nov. 10) at Kings ferry. Gen. Washington that day removed his head Quarters from North Castle, he said, to Peeks Kill 15 M. below Fish Kill & 30 above Kingsbridge: That L<sup>d</sup> Stirling with his Brigade & Gen. Putnam with another passed to Jersey side: that at Norwalk he heard Gen. How's Forces had turned southward. He shewed me a Philad<sup>a</sup> paper 6<sup>th</sup> Instant. I take him to be a Tory—tho' he says we have 4000 at M<sup>t</sup> Washington. & that the Kings Troops cannot take it.

Col Cushing dismissed his Reg<sup>t</sup> at Newport this day—the Term of Enlistment expiring. They were exceeding orderly, civil & religious. They have honored the Congregational Way. Yesterday Afternoon I preached my Sacramental Lecture.

17. Ldsday. A.M. I preached at Newport 1 Jno. i, 7, and administered the Lds Supper to 31 Communicants, 2 of the Army, the rest were the Remainder of my broken Flock. P.M. Rom. xv, 13, and baptized Mary a child of Mr Beebees, & read Gov. Cookes Proclamation of a Fast 28<sup>th</sup> Inst thro' the State of Rh. Isld. The Congregation about 150 Persons, perhaps 20 Strangers.

18. Read several malicious Letters from Mr Peters the Hebron Parson in London.

19. This Afternoon came to Newp<sup>t</sup> a Copy of Gen. Lees Letter of 14<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> to Gov. Cook, notifying an Embark<sup>a</sup> of about 3000 Kings Troops in 70 sail as Deserters inform bound for Carolina, but says Gen. Lee it is not impossible nor improbable they may be designed for Newport: & recommending to put that place in Posture of Defence. Gov. Cook has called the Assembly to meet at E. Greenwich next Thursday. There are now in Newport about *Seven hundred* Troops. This excites some Fears & Alarm. It is well for Gen. Lee to advise us against Contingencies. But I imagine it is only a Number of Store Ships & Transports return<sup>d</sup> to Engl<sup>d</sup> & taking on board 2 or 3000 wounded Troops & Invalids.

20. It is said Gen. Washington is gone over on Jersey side—and that F<sup>t</sup> Washington is most vigorously attacked again by Sea & Land.

It is said that Dr Franklin & Mr. Rutledge are sailed for France 25<sup>th</sup> of October last: being sent by Congress to the Court of Paris.

21. We have certain Intelligence that the Enemy about 4000 are gone off from Crownpoint.

22. A large Prize ship arrived at Provid. yesterday.

23. There were perhaps 5 or 6 Reg<sup>ts</sup> of Massachusetts Militia raised in Sept. last enlisted to 17<sup>th</sup> Nov. They were all dismissed last Sabbath, unless they reinlisted. One Reg<sup>t</sup> was at Newp<sup>t</sup>—some at N. Y. Those at N York being dismissed, left the Camp that Way last Ldsdy, & are now arriv<sup>g</sup> home. Those which are got home say, Ft. Washington had been vigorously attacked—& that the Enemy were all at Kingsbridge & N. York—that the Fleet sailed the friday before, viz 15<sup>th</sup> Nov. Inst. We have report that a vessel arrived in Providence came across this fleet standing off to Sea, as if bound for Europe.—This day I have been member of the Chh.—or a Professor & Communicant thirty years. I was admitted Nov. 23, 1746, æt. 19, a Member in full Communion into the Chh. of Christ in North Haven of which my honored Father was then Pastor.

24. Ldsdy. At Dighton A M I preached on James iii, 17, 18. P.M. Isai. lv, 7. . . .

25. A Vessel in at Newport from sea latter End last Week, says, they came across the Fleet standing off to Sea.

“A Serjeant who deserted from the British Army at P<sup>t</sup> aux Trembles between Montreal & Soule, the 31<sup>st</sup> of Aug<sup>t</sup> last, says that Col. *McLean Regt* was quartered at P<sup>t</sup> aux Tremble, *twelve hundred Foreigners* at Quebec, all the 34<sup>th</sup> at Montreal except two Comp<sup>a</sup> with Col. Johnson & his Indians at Le Chien. That he heard their officers compute their Army at *Seven Thousd*, in which were the 9<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> 31<sup>st</sup> 34 & 49 & the Germans. There are none of the Canadians in the King of Englds Service.” Lett. dat. Ticonderoga 23, Sep.—This probably a good Account. 8 British Regiments equal 4000 & this above half the Army brought over this year : If they were reduced to 300 a Regt by the Fall, it will account for their being but about *four Thousd*. at their Landing at Crown point : which were not eno’ to engage Ten Thousd. effective Men under Gen. Gates. And so they reembarked.

#### CONFLAGRATION OF N YORK 21<sup>ST</sup> SEPT.

“. . . New York was in flames on Sat<sup>y</sup> morn<sup>g</sup> 21<sup>st</sup> Inst. (Sept.) since which we had many & different Reports—the most authentic of which we believe is as follows. viz. That the Fire originated at



or near Whitehall, soon extended to the Exchange, took its Course up the W. side of Broad street as far as Verlattenberg Hill consuming all the Blocks from the Whitehall up. The Flames extended across the Broadway from the house of Mr David Johnston to Beaver Lane or Finchers Alley, on the West, and carried all before it, a few buildings excepted, to the house at the Corner of Berkley Street, wherein the late Mr Vanderberg lived, sweeping all the Cross-streets in ye Way. The build'gs left standing on the W. side of Broadway are supposed to be—(Eight enumerated besides St Pauls)—The Cause of the Fire is not known. We imagine about a *Sixth part* of the whole City is destroyed.'—Extr. from Mr Gaines' N. York Mercury of 28. Sept. printed at Newark.

There is another *N York Mercury* printed in the City of N Y. at the printing office Mr. Gaines left when he removed to Newark. By a Kings Printer. In that of 7<sup>th</sup> Oct. this Burning is ascribed to the N Engld pple. as that of Rome was to the Christians. . . . .

26. Certain News of the Surrendery of Fort Wash. to the Kings Troops Sat<sup>y</sup> before last or 16<sup>th</sup> Inst Nov. One crossed Dobbs Ferry last Wednesday, & heard that the Enemy were crossing below over into Jersey. He saw our pple remov<sup>g</sup> the Artillery & Stores from F<sup>t</sup> Lee. Gen. Wash. & most of the army are on Jersey side. Gen. Lee on this side. It is said the Enemy have left E. Chester & even Kings bridge. Gen. Lee tried to persuade the Mass. Troops of the Sept. Levy to stay, but could not prevail. Rh. Isld Assembly raise another Rep<sup>t</sup> of 700 in ten days for Newport & ordered most of the heavy Canon to the Ferries at the N<sup>o</sup> End of the Island.

27. Cap<sup>t</sup> Dennis a Captive from Halifax, which he left about End of Oct. says, the Officers on board considered their Loss at attack<sup>g</sup> our Lines on L. Isld in Aug<sup>t</sup> last by Gen. Howes Returns at 330 killed of the Kings Troops, and wounded uncertain: that an Eng. or Scotch but British Baronet who came over as a Traveller, & was a spectator of the Action, declared in Halifax, the Kings Loss was much greater than G. Howes returns, so as to excite some Stir there. That orders came there the latter End of Oct. to build Barracks in Halifax for Ten Thousd Men. That the Officers all peremptorily said, the Matter would be all made up & settled by Christmas. Since his Return, he saw a Captive Captain of a Jamaica Prize, who told him, the Jamaica Fleet he sailed in consisted of near 200 Sail, & that he knew of *Sixty* of them already

taken by the Americans. So probably one Third taken. The British Officers at Halifax freely said that America would carry their Point and establish their Independence.

28. This day is a day of Fasting and Prayer thro' the State of Rh. Isld by Order of Assembly. Yesterday Gov. Cook sent Express to inform Newport that Gen Lee by a Lett. of 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. advised that a Deserter said the Fleet would sail next day for Newport. One Div. of the fleet sailed—& it is said was seen this day fourteenight agoe Lat. 39 & a little E. of Block Isld. It is difficult to trace all their Motions.

29. Lett. from M<sup>t</sup> Independence Nov. 17. (Ticonderoga.) “We are all upon the Move to Albany as fast as we can get over the Lake. The En<sup>y</sup> have moved into Winter Qu<sup>rs</sup> in Canada, consid. Snow hav<sup>g</sup> fallen there. This Acc<sup>o</sup> was bro't this Morn<sup>g</sup> by o' Flag from St Johns with an Officer belong. to the En<sup>y</sup>. The Reasons of the intended Remove of our Troops is a *suspected Movement* of the Enemy in that Quarter, & also the necessity of going that Way to settle the Affairs of the Army with a Committee of Congress that is there.”

Journal of G. Wash. Army the last fourt'night of October 1776. A critical period. Extr. of a Letter dated Camp near the Mills about three Miles N<sup>o</sup> of White plains Nov. 1.

“About the 15<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup> the *great Movements of the Enemy* up the Sound, their Land<sup>s</sup> in large bodies at Frogs P<sup>t</sup>, & the Intelligence which the Generals obtained that the Enemy with their whole force were off against E. Chester & N. Rochel, & that both L<sup>d</sup> & Gen. Howe were there in person, gave the Generals full satisfaction, that Gen. Hows plan was to make a bold stroke & hem in & cut off our Army at once. Gen. Lee I have understood tho't that the Situation of the army of the States of America was much too confined & cramped, & that it could *not be good Policy* to lie still in such a Situation, or to *hazard the great Cause* in which we were embarked in *one General Action*, in which if we should not succede, the Army might be lost, as a Retreat would be extremely difficult if not impossible. It was determined by the Generals therefore to *counteract the Enemy by a general Movement*. Gen. McDougals Brigade from the Lines at Harlem, several Reg<sup>ts</sup> of Militia at F<sup>t</sup> Wash., & 5 or six Reg<sup>ts</sup> from the Jersey side were ordered over Kingsbridge & marched on towards the Enemy to counteract them in their Operations. Generals Heath, Parsons &c with *more than half the*

army were there before. Gen. Lee also now took his Post on that side not far from the Enemy.

On the 16<sup>th</sup> the Generals were all in Council & determined to leave Harlem, F<sup>t</sup> Wash., & Kingsbridge only with a Garison & march into the Country.

In the meantime the Stores Baggage &c were moved to places of safety with the greatest Expedition. G. Lincoln had orders to post himself at Volentine hill near Mile Square & to cast up some Works for defence & Redoubts were cast up on the Hills & on all difficult Passes on the road from Kingsbridge to Mile Square to secure our March.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> G. Spencer's whole Division had orders to march to Mile Sqr, which we reached next day. Two Brigades of y<sup>t</sup> Div. encamped at Mile Sqr on the left of G. Lincoln, & L<sup>d</sup> Stirl<sup>s</sup> marched on further and formed still on the left of them towards the White plains *making a front twds the Enemy* from E. Chester almost to the White plains on the E. side of the highway, so as to secure the March of the Troops behind us on our Right, and to defend the Teams & Waggon<sup>s</sup> y<sup>t</sup> brought on our sick, Canon, Stores &c. In this manner one Division of the Army passed another till we extended from the Sound up to White plains & over to Kings street, not far from Connect. Line where Gen Parsons took his post, and till the last Division on the right Wing, which was Gen Lee's, reached the Plains, and marched out Westward between the main body of the Army & the River. This was on the 25<sup>th</sup> & 26<sup>th</sup> of Oct<sup>r</sup>. *This left all the Rode from E. Chester to Kingsbridge open to the Enemy*, except<sup>z</sup> a few Guards & a Reg<sup>t</sup> at or near F<sup>t</sup> Independence. This I have understood was Col. Wyllys's & that his Orders were, if the Enemy came on too powerfully to retreat to F<sup>t</sup> Washington. Gen. Green I have understood (Quære) is at F<sup>t</sup> Wash. with abo't 1600 or 2000 Men, & that the Garison is well supplied with Provis. & warlike stores so as to stand a long siege. They have a Communic<sup>a</sup> with the forts on the high Rocks on the opposite shore. All the Barracks & Prepar<sup>a</sup> for Winter, we have been obliged to leave for the present. Our stores of every kind, as far as I can learn, have been bro't off & sent to places of safety; our field Art<sup>y</sup> with 2 double fortified 12 pounders & one brass 24 D<sup>o</sup> we have bro't off with us.

While we were mak<sup>z</sup> this grand Movem<sup>t</sup> into the Country, the Enemy were not idle; hav<sup>g</sup> collected their Troops from all qu<sup>rs</sup> at



Frogs Pt & on board their ships, which were ranged along shore off against the Point, & opposite to E. Chester. On the 18<sup>th</sup> they began a Canonade from their Ship<sup>s</sup> early in the day, & landed some Men on a p<sup>t</sup> or neck of Land near E. Chester Meetinghouse, & their main Body advanced from Pells neck out towards the g<sup>t</sup> Post Road from Connect. to N York. Gen Lee, who had been watching their motions, had *posted a Reg<sup>t</sup> or 2 of men with one of the Rifle Batalions*, in a very advantageous Manner to annoy them, & bring them into an Ambush, which partly succeeded. *A large advanced Guard* came forward, *with 2 parties on the right & left of them* to flank & get round our pple. wherever small parties sh<sup>d</sup> appear to oppose them. A small party of our Troops were sent forward to fire on the large advanced Body of the Enemy & to divert & lead them on to a Wall, behind which the Reg<sup>ts</sup> mentioned were principally secreted. *The Enemy came very near the Wall, & recd a general fire from our Troops*, which broke their advanced Party intirely, so that they ran back to the main Body, formed & *came on again in larger numbers*, keep<sup>g</sup> up a heavy Fire with Field pieces on the Walls & Men. *They advanced now very near & rec<sup>d</sup> a second Fire which intirely routed them again*, and they retreated in a narrow Lane by a Wall, in a confused huddled manner, near which were posted a *large Body of Riflemen, & some Comp<sup>a</sup> of musquet men*, who at this *favorite Moment* poured in upon them a *most heavy Fire* once or twice, before they could get out of the Way; & they were seen to fall in great Numbers. *The whole Body of the Enemy then advanced in solid Columns*, & large flank<sup>g</sup> parties advanced diff. Ways to surround our Men. They however kept the Wall, till the *Enemy advanced a third time*, and after giv<sup>g</sup> them several Fires they retreated by order from their Officers. Gen. Lee greatly commended the Conduct of the Men.

The Enemy were tho't at the lowest Computation to have lost 500 Men, some think not less than a thousd. We had but very few killed, & as far as I can learn not more than 50 or 60 Wounded. The En<sup>y</sup> adv<sup>d</sup> on to a high p<sup>t</sup> or neck of Land, not far from E. Chester Meetinghouse, from whence they were able to comand the Rode with their field pieces, but they kept very much in a body, so that our pple on Sat<sup>y</sup> & Sunday Nights, the 19<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> of Oct., bro't off more than 100 Bbs of Pork, that had been left in the store at E. Chester without any Molestation. About the same time the Enemy sent some light parties along on the shore as far

as N Rochel & Maroneck, but their main body did not move but very little.

On the Even<sup>g</sup> of the 22<sup>d</sup> Thirty six of the Enemy were taken & next Morn<sup>g</sup> brot to headquarters. They were Tory Rangers who had listed under the infamous Major Rogers. One of them had been an Officer in the N York Service, & deserted from us not long since. Two or 3 of them I have been told were from Newtown in Connecticut. The 23<sup>d</sup> there was much Canonad<sup>g</sup> & a smart Engag<sup>t</sup> between a party of our Men & the Enemy. The Enemy were beaten, left thirteen Hessians dead on the field &c &c. In this Action we had not one man killed, & but 6 or 8 wounded; but one it was thot mortally.

Friday 25<sup>th</sup> there was much firing from the ships in honor to George 3<sup>d</sup>—and the Enemy advanced a little into the Country, but with great Caution having an advanced Guard of Two Thous<sup>d</sup> men or more, with a number of excellent field pieces. At night they would halt on advantageous ground with their Canon well mounted round them; and thus they have come on *only a mile or two in a day*, in the most cautious manner with great art and Generalship.

Sabbath day, 27<sup>th</sup> the Enemy sent up two ships to cut off the Communication between F<sup>t</sup> Wash. & the Jersey shore but lay so much below F<sup>t</sup> Wash. that they could not fire on them to good Advantage; at the same time a *general attack was made by the Enemy on our Lines at Harlem*, but they were *repulsed* 3 times successively, & the last time went off in great Confusion, & our Troops pursued them some miles. *It is said they lost 8 or nine hundred men*, that our men were not able to bury them next day. The Ships were soon so mauled off & damaged by our Canon that they were obliged to slip their Cables & fall down the river. They were it is said greatly damaged, but neither of them sunk.

Monday 28<sup>th</sup> we had Intelligence that the Enemy with their whole Body were advancing towards us. The Army were immed<sup>y</sup> alarmed, & Gen. Wadsworths Brigade, with some other Reg<sup>ts</sup> under the Comand of Gen. Spencer, consisting in the whole of 5 or six Thous<sup>d</sup> Men were sent out as an advanced party to skirmish with the Enemy & *harrass them in their March*. We marched on to a hill about one mile & an half from our Lines, with an Art<sup>y</sup> Comp<sup>a</sup> & two field pieces & placed ourselves behind Walls & Fences in the best manner we could to give the Enemy Trouble. About  $\frac{1}{2}$

after Nine o' Clock *our advanced parties all came retreating in before the Enemy*, and the light parties of the Enemy, with their advanced Guard consisting of 2 or 3000, came in sight and marched on briskly toward us, keeping the high grounds: & the light horse pranced on a little in the rear making a very martial appearance; as our light parties came on to the Hills & discovered where we were, the Enemy began to canonade us, & to fling Shells from their Howits & small Mortars. Their *Light parties* soon came on, & *we fired upon them from the Walls & Fences, broke & scattered them at once*. But they would *run from our Front & get round our Wings to flank us*, & as soon as our fire discovered where we were, the Enemys Art<sup>y</sup> would at once begin to play upon us in a most furious manner. We kept the Walls till the Enemy were just ready to surround us, and then we would retreat from one Wall & hill to another, & maintain our Ground there in the same manner till numbers were just ready to surround us. Once the *Hessian Grenadiers* came up in the Front of Col. Douglas's Reg<sup>t</sup> & *we fired a general Volley upon them*, at about 20 Rods distance, & *scattered them like Leaves in a Whirlwind*, & they ran off so far that some of the Reg<sup>t</sup> ran out to the ground where they were when we fired upon them & bro't off their Arms & Accoutrements, & rum that the Men who fell had with them, which we had time to drink round with before they came on again. They formed at a dist<sup>a</sup> & waited till their Art<sup>y</sup> & main body came on, when *they advanced in solid Columns* upon us, & were gathering all round us Ten to one (Q. How so, if our adv<sup>a</sup> party only was 5000?) Col. Douglass & Sillimans Regiments fired 4 or five times on them as they were advanc<sup>d</sup> & then retreated, but not till the Enemy began to fire on their flanks. Colonels *Silliman, Douglas & Arnold* behaved nobly, & the men gained much Applause. Col. Webbs, Sillimans & Douglass's Reg<sup>ts</sup> had the principal share in the Action.

Col. Webb had 4 killed & 8 or 9 wounded

Col. Silliman lost 6. & had 10 or 12 wounded

Col. Douglass had 3 killed & 6 wounded.

Col. Brooke's, Smallwood's, & Ritzma's Reg<sup>ts</sup> who were drawn up on the hill near the Lines suffered considerably; *our Loss* in the whole may be 70 or eighty killed & wounded. It is said by all the Deserters & Captives, who agreed in their stories, that the *Enemy* had about *Three hundred killed & wounded*. The scene was grand & solemn, all the adjacent hills smoked as tho' on fire, & bellowed



& trembled with a perpetual Canonade &c. *I was in the Action*, & under as good Advantages as any one man, perhaps, to *observe all that passed*, and write these particulars of the Action from my own Observation. No general Action was designed on our part: & I believe a *Thous<sup>d</sup> Men* were never engaged at any Time with the Enemy. They came on to the hills opposite our Lines & halted: & after canonad<sup>g</sup> some time part of our Lines, they became very still & quiet.

On the 31<sup>st</sup> 'twas observed that they had nearly finished 4 or 5 Batteries, which they had erected against us, and as our Ground near the Center of the *town at White-Plains* was not good, being overlooked by neighbor<sup>g</sup> Hills, the *Generals last night drew off most of the Troops from the Lines there*, and this Morn<sup>g</sup> the Guards & Sentries *burned the Town & Forage all round it*, & came off about Nine o'Clock. We had carried off all our stores & planted our Art<sup>y</sup> on the hills about a Mile & a half back of the Center of the Town. The Enemy advanced in the Forenoon on the Ground we left, & as soon as they came over the hill, we saluted them with our Canon & field pieces, and they advanced no farther. Our sick & wounded are sent out 8 or 10 Miles. Our Men are in good spirits, & with much Patience endure great Hardships & Fatigues. I believe the main body of the Enemy lie off against us, & that they have formed no Lines across the Country as yet below us.—All Things seem quiet at Fort Washington."

The above I judge a Lett. to Gov. Trumbull from the Rev M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull,<sup>1</sup> a Chaplain in our Army.

Lett. "Camp at Millsquare E. Chester 23 Oct."

" . . . . Friday Morn<sup>g</sup> last (18) we were alarmed &c,—and the Enemy landed at Rodman's P<sup>t</sup> (a place about four miles from our Encampment) with their whole Force. The *Brigade* under the command of Col. *Glover*, consisting of about *Seven hundred Men*, one Reg<sup>t</sup> being absent for Guard.—We marched down towds the place where the Enemy were advancing with a body of *Sixteen Thousd* with a very large Artillery. The first attack was made by a small party on *their advanced Guard*, which *were effectually routed & forced to retreat* to the main body; who when they came up were *fired upon by two Reg<sup>s</sup>* advantageously posted by Col. Glover & Major Lee (who behaved gallantly) which bro't

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Trumbull (Yale 1759), of North Haven; his father was a first cousin of the Governor.

many of them to the Ground. Thus we continued fighting them & retreating the whole Afternoon until they came to a Stand, where they now remain except stretching along down towards Connecticut, I suppose for Forage. Our Men behaved like Soldiers, conformed to the Orders of their Officers & retreated in grand Order.—Our Loss is about Nine or 10 killed & abot 30 wounded. The Enemy, a Deserter says, lost Two hundred killed on the spot & great number wounded. People may think what they please of the regular & spirited Behav. of the *British Troops*, but I that day was an Eye Witness to the contrary, *I saw as great Irregularity almost as in a Militia*. They would come out from the Body & fire single Guns. As to their Courage, the whole Body of 16 Thousd were forced to retreat by the fire of a single Regiment, & many of them old Troops. *The fourth Reg<sup>t</sup> was one that run*. And had we been reinforced with half their Number might have totally defeated them.—The next day G. Lee (under whose commd we are) came & publicly returned his Thanks to Col. Glover & the Officers & Sold<sup>rs</sup> under his Commd for their noble, spirited, & soldierlike conduct during the Battle.—G. Wash has since &c. —The En<sup>y</sup> have so far quitted N York that our pple have been down as far as a place called Bower Lane, which is but one Mile from the Extent of the City."

Another Acc<sup>o</sup>—Lett. Newcastle Oct. 29.—“ We have secured & encamped in every hill & dale between this & N. York. Last Friday week (18) our whole Brigade that then lay at East Chester under Command of Col. Glover, was ordered to oppose the progress of a large body of the Enemy then landing at Rodmans Point. *Three Reg<sup>ts</sup>* were ordered to pass a Causey (the only passage) & march to oppose them; & our Regt with 3 pieces of Art<sup>y</sup> was posted on an Eminence overlooking the Causeway, to secure a Retreat for the others & prevent the Enemy's Advancing. Col. Glover so posted the *three other Reg<sup>s</sup>* in the Wood, that they annoyed the Enemy greatly. But discovering that they had determined to flank them he ordered a Retreat. We had 6 or 7 killed & about 18 wounded; the Enemys Loss about 140 or 150,—” N B. Seven Regts in the Brigades & yet by a former Letter only 700 men. How small the Number of the effective Men of a Reg<sup>t</sup>?

“ After this skirmish we retreated to Mile Square where we lay encamped till friday (25 Oct) when we with the Remainder of Gen Lees Div. joyned the main Body of the Army at *White plains*, one

mile & an half from our present Situation." So N<sup>o</sup> Castle 1½ M. from White plains.

"The day before yesterday (27 Oct). a body of the Enemy landed at Boardits ferry with Intent to take Fort Constitution ; but Gen Green so well disposed two Brigades of y<sup>e</sup> Militia & fly<sup>e</sup> Camp, that he *repulsed them in three repeated Attacks*. At the same Time 3 or 4 Men o' War came up to attack F<sup>t</sup> Washington : & of 60 shot from one 18 pounder, 44 did their duty so effectually as obliged them to retire, &c.—"

"Yesterday (Oct. 28) the Enemy advanced from one of the Heights with a large Body of Britons, Hessians, Light Cavalry & Art<sup>y</sup>, & made an *Attack on our Lines on the Plains*, in which after a severe Conflict, *they failed*. They then *fired off in two Columns to the right & left*; a Body of 400 Hessians from their right Column attacked one flank of Gen. Spencers Division, & with such Fortitude that fifteen sixteenths of them were cut down. Their Left Column attacked an advantageous Height defended by Gen. McDougalls Brigade, but without Lines or any kind of Breastwork, which he maintained with the greatest Bravery till the Inequality of his Number obliged him to abandon it to the Enemy, *whose whole right Division now lies there.*"—End Extract.

I collect these diff. Acc<sup>o</sup> of the several Actions that from the whole, the Truth may be deduced. Obs. 1. M<sup>r</sup> Trumbulls Lett. speaks of 5 or 6000 appointed for the Service of 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. & yet says no general Action was intended. 2. However from that Number I infer that the Generals expected more from them than they performed—leading them from skirmishes to greater Actions &c. 3. That the Generals & G. Lee in particular was disappointed. For an Evacuation of White Plains was instantly ordered. Again, the Omission of Thanks shews the Affair of 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. not extraordinary. But the action or Skirmish of 18<sup>th</sup> Oct. honored us much. Accord<sup>y</sup> Thanks was publikly given to Col. Glovers Brigade . . .

Dec.

1. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on 2 Cor. i, 12. Then in the Intermission Season rode 1½ Mile to attend the Funeral of Mrs. Hatheway—prayed at the House—and accompanied the Corps which was bro't into the Meetghouse. P. M. I preached Eccl. vii, 2. After Service the Congreg<sup>a</sup> attended to the Grave, where



after the burial, at the Desire of Cap<sup>t</sup> Hatheway & the Mourners, I made a Speech.

5. . . . They have been in Anxiety at Newport, where there was an Alarm, but no Fleet came in sight. A Providence Privateer has bro't in a prize she took off to the southward. It was one of a Fleet of 130 Sail from N York in Ballast for Europe. So that a fleet certainly sailed & passed by Rh. Isld. Persons from the Army last Week inform, that we evacuated F<sup>t</sup> Lee which the Enemy took Possession of—that 5000 of the Enemy proceeded & marched thro' Hackinsack & made towds Amboy :—that Gen. Washington's Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> was at Elizabethtown, as G. Lee commanded on the East side of Hudsons River ;—that the Congress had recommended to the Army to avoid a general Action, but give ground to the Kings Troops & suffer them to march backwds & forwds as they pleased for the rest of this Campaign :—That the Continental Southern Battalions filled apace, & were flocking in fast to G. Washington :—that the Tories were high in the Jerseys :—that the southern Tories were better than the northern.

6. Gen. Gates & the Northern Army are arrived & arriving at Albany ; large Garrisons being left at Crownp<sup>t</sup> & Ticonderoga under the Commd of Gen. S<sup>t</sup> Clair.

7. In Provid. paper of 30<sup>th</sup> Nov. “ Cap<sup>t</sup> West in the Privateer Joseph has taken a *Transport ship* that left N York in Comp<sup>a</sup> with 130 Sail, all in *Ballast, bound for Europe*, under Convoy of three Men o' War.” By a Gent. from Boston yesterday I am told that Cap<sup>t</sup> Cluston has taken another Ship out of the same fleet, ballasted only with Guns. So this determines that the fleet from N. Y. said to be coming to Rh. Isld, and sometimes for Carolina, is only return<sup>e</sup> Store ships.

This Even<sup>g</sup> we are alarmed at Dighton, with certain News, that a Fleet of about *Eleven Men o' War & perhaps 70 Transports* arrived at Newport this day about Noon, and anchored under Conan-cott between that & Newport, and that the Town is in great Consternation & Destress. This afternoon many Canon were heard here. Many are removing from Newport & Bristol. The good Lord prepare us for, and carry us thro' all the Tribulation in which it may please him that we shall be involved ! How soon the Aspect of public affairs may be changed ? I expect that to morrow Newport will be in the hands of the Enemy, who doubtless intend to winter there.

We have News also that the 5000 which crossed below Dobbs Ferry into Jersey, were opposed by a Body of our Army there under General Putnam. That an Action took place, in which we were successful, killing many and gaining the Field of Battle. An Alarm is gone forth & the Militia from Connecticut, this part of Mass. & the whole Militia of the State of Rh. Isld are pouring into the Assistance of Newport. The Smithfield Companies were at Providence to day & several Companies marched thro' Bristol this day, and our forces this Way are to march at IV o'Clock to morrow Morning. Part of the Canon are removed from the Forts at Newp<sup>t</sup> to the ferries at the N<sup>e</sup> End of the Isld. A Ship came up the East side this Afternoon stand<sup>g</sup> up for Howlds Ferry doubtless to block it up. They are removing the stock off the Isld of Rh. Isld. It seems to be our Turn now to taste of the heavy Calamities of the War. May God deliver us in his own Time out of all our Des- tresses. I hope God will uphold the Spirits of the pple & prevent a spirit of Intimidation & Dispair spreading thro' the Land. The Conflict is severe, but it is glorious. A Shudder went thro' the Continent in Oct. & Nov.—but we had nearly recovered our former Firmness. This new aspect will I expect excite a considerable Shudder, especially in these parts—but after the first shock we shall resume Courage, & I trust heroically get thro' the trying Conflict, which I doubt not in Gods holy Providence, will be eventually crowned with Victory & Honor. May all our Trust & our supreme Confidence be placed in the God of our Fathers, the Lord of Hosts!

8. Ldsdy at Dighton A.M. I preached on Heb. vii, 19. P.M. Isai. xxvi, 9. Extensive Alarm! The Militia of this part of Massachusetts are under Major Gen. Warren of Plymouth. One Quarter of the Militia of the whole State were ordered to march 2<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> some to N York some elsewhere, Major Gen. Warren & his fourth part for Newport. But this Morning orders came for every Man of the Alarm List to march. Between 80 & 100 Dighton Men marched at IX  $\frac{1}{2}$  & X this Forenoon, for Rh. Isld: but an Express from Col Godfry an hour after set out & overtook them at Bristol & remanded them to Providence, as Gov. Cook had advised the Enemies View was there.

Cap<sup>t</sup> Gardner from Howlands Ferry informs that the Fleet of Men o'War & Transports consist of *fifty three sail*, that they came up Narrag. ferry around the N<sup>e</sup> End of Conanacutt and anchored

about sunset at & near Coddingtons Cove. M<sup>r</sup> Fisher at III<sup>h</sup> P.M. returned from Bristol & says the fleet have sailed northward to —against Rehoboth—he saw a Man from Newp<sup>t</sup> this forenoon, says some are removing, in great Destress: however the most of the Inhabitants conclude to stay. This Eveng. several Families arrived here. It is said the Fleet have weighed anchor & proceeded up the Bay as far as Warwick. If so they may intend to land Troops there, & march to Providence, destroy the Town & Fleet, and then go to Newport.

At Meeting I read the Proclamation for a Day of Thanksgiving.

9. . . . . This Afternoon we hear that the Enemy landed yesterday about the Middle of the West Side of the Isld, about Three Thousand Men: & marched into Newport, paraded before the Courthouse & there published the Kings Proclamation, & formally took possession of the Town & erected the Kings Government & Laws. The American Troops perhaps 1200 having evacuated the Town & retired to the N<sup>o</sup> End & so off the Isld. I judge 400 marched thro' Dighton yesterday & this day from Bridgwater &c in their Way to Bristol. Above 100 marched from Dighton only. All Men march without Distinction. An amazing Spirit is gone forth! an universal Willingness in the People, to offer themselves for the Defence of their Country! A man left Providence this Noon, says, the most of the Inhabitants are removed, & the Town crouded with Soldiers from Mass. Connect. & Rh. Isld. It may be of service that the Enemy should know, that 8 or Ten Thousd have assembled around them in 2 or 3 days. Tho' it is too late to save Newport it may check their Landing on the Main.

10. This day is my Birthday, finish<sup>g</sup> 49<sup>th</sup> y. of my age. Bridgwater Militia still pressing along. There are Nine Companies in Bridgwater: all march but *twenty four Tories* only who refused to come. About 250 marched thro' Dighton this day.

11. The Defeat of the Regulars in Jersey by Gen. Putnam seems confirmed. About 200 marched thro' to day.

This Evening I spent with Col W<sup>m</sup> Richmond who commanded at Newport all last Summer. He is just from Saconet—where he says 3 Men landed from Newport last Even'g, one of whom bro't over a N. York print of 2<sup>d</sup> Dec. Inst. I read it—It contains a proclama<sup>a</sup> of L<sup>d</sup> & Gen How, offering Pardon to any that come within 60 days from its date which was about 21<sup>st</sup> Oct.—with the Address of the Inhabitants of Queens C<sup>o</sup> on Long Isld, to the two Howes for Par-



don dated 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. & signed by about one Thousd or 1200 Names. L<sup>d</sup> How said he would consider it. The paper is a Mixture of Truth & Lies calculated to be dispersed at Newport &c. It says 12 *Th. Wurtemburghers* are embarking for America; and that G. B. has treated for 24 *Th. Russians* certainly next April—that the People of G. B. are *generally* & almost *universally* so incensed against us that they are ready to enlist &c.; this may be true: They tell of Ravages committed by M<sup>r</sup> Washington, & that several of the Congress are plundering their Country & realliz<sup>e</sup> large Sums in the foreign Funds in order to make off. They say the Detatchm<sup>t</sup> under L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis had taken possession of Newark, Elizabethtown, & Woodbridge: but say nothing of a Repulse thereabouts, tho' they have such News in Newport, & Ned Thurston looks grave upon it. About 15 or 20 Persons are imprisoned at Newport by the Regulars chiefly of the lower sort & some that had borne Arms. The Officers were taking up houses for Barracks, & among others have taken my House & Meetinghouse—which last it is said they intend to make an Assembly Room for Balls &c after taking down the Pews. As yet they have put none to the Oath of Allegiance.

12. The first Snow this Winter. This is a day of public *Thanksgiving* & *Prayer* thro' the State & by order of the Legislature of the Massachusetts Bay. The most of our pple are absent on the public Service yet we attended the Solemnity at XI A.M. when after reading the Proclam<sup>a</sup> singing a Psalm & Prayer & singing again I preached on Ps. lxxviii, 1-4. A Number of Soldiers marching by attended. I hear that the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins has escaped from Newport. There have marched thro' Dighton about 200 this day, so about a Thousd or upwards have passed since Sabbath Morn<sup>g</sup>. Yesterday about 1036 at Howlds Ferry, as Returns gave in this Morn<sup>g</sup> at Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> at Warren. We still retain the forts on Rh. Isld at Howlands ferry going over daily, tho' no stated Garrison there. Very few of the Inhab. of Newp<sup>t</sup> or Rh. Isld have come off. The most of the Inhab. of Bristol evacuated and removed to Rehoboth, Swanzy & Dighton.

I asserted this day in my Sermon that in the several Actions or Skirmishes at N York we had killed of the Enemy near *Two hundred Men*, besides the wounded—& the Obstacles collectively taken had wro't an Annoyance to the Enemy, equal to several successful Battles—that in the last War in the Battle of Custrin in Pomerania

between 70 Th. Russians & 40 Th. Prussians, the former killed of the latter but about 500—and in the Battle of Quebec in which Gen Wolfe fell victorious, the Enemy detrimented us by fewer than 60 slain—that our Success was beyond Expectation—that by Sea we had made 250 Prizes, worth  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Mill. sterling.

13. Perhaps 200 more marched thro' this day.

14. Last Night or rather at 11 o'Clock this Morning was a general Alarm on Rh. Isld & thro' our Camps. The occasion was this. The Enemy set fire to an house & Barn at Howland's Ferry on the Isld side, tho' they had promised the Owner or Possessor that his Property shd not be hurt. They fired it to prevent our resorting thither, as we had done hitherto, & kept the Enemy at a distance off the Neck. Our Troops at the Ferry fired an Alarm Gun, as did the ship at Fogld ferry, & so the alarm went round. We have about 2500 at Bristol, 1500 at Warren & 1500 at Howlds ferry—Total 5500 this side the Bay; and it is said there are more on the other side from Providence to Pt Judith. News from Newport by Mr N. R. a Tory that the Kings Troops at Newport are *Ten Thousd*, and at N York *Thirty Thousd*—and that they can march into the Country when they please—and that no body is molested but every body enjoys Peace & Security. Another came out of Newp' yesterday, says the Soldiers ravished two Lying-in Women: that Col. Campbell commands at Gov. Wantons; Sir Peter Parker & Gen Clinton have not been ashore: that Proclamations of Pardon are stuck up all over the Town giving a space of 60 Days; that J. R. is busy in taking Barracks & pointing out Sons of Liberty's Houses—that they have taken my House & Meetinghouse among the rest, intending to take out the pews from the latter & make of it an Assembly Room—that about 15 were imprisoned—that there was News of a Defeat in Jersies which chagrined the Tories, who very insolent—that they were carrying off hay supposed for N. York. I have above fourty Families of my Congreg<sup>a</sup> now in Newport.

15. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Ps. cxxviii, 1. P.M. Rev. iii, 10. I suppose the Episcopal Chh of Engld is opened in Newport this day, for the first time since they shut it up in July last, because they might not pray for the King. We hear from Bristol that this Morn<sup>e</sup> the Ships have disappeared—probably gone into the Harbor of Newport.

16. Mr Channing returns from the Assembly at Providence in which he is assistant Clerk to the Lower House. Col. Varnum

(now General) left Gen. Lee in the Jerseys, 7<sup>th</sup> Inst., who dismissed him to come for Rh. Isld.—says that the Enemy had marched inland to *Brunswick*, where they were entrenching—that Gen. Washington with his Army were at Princetown & Trenton with six Thousand, expecting a Reinforc<sup>t</sup> of 14 Th. from the Southward—that Gen. Lee having passed Hudsons R. about Peekskill was on his March & within 30 Miles of G. Washington—and that Gen. Gates with 3000 from Ticonderoga was with Gen. Lee. . . . .

. . . . . A detachm<sup>t</sup> of the flying camp was stationed where the Enemy crossed below Dobbs' ferry, but instead of defending the pass, they fled, like the N Engld Militia whom they had reproached for a cowardly flight at Turtle bay. All Militia both Northward & Southward alike—all good—but a panic may seize them as well it sometimes does the best Troops. It certainly must be advantageous to have 200 Th. Militia well armed, not only for enlistments into standing Continental Battalions, but to be convoked & assembled in Emergencies, when by the Arrangm<sup>t</sup> of a good General, they may check & annoy the Enemy.

Mons. Malmadie a Frenchman æt. 35 circa from France, was last Week appointed in our service by Rh. Isld Assembly with Rank of Brig. General. He was in the Battle of Minden I think Cap<sup>t</sup> of Horse, has been 25 years in Army, was recommended by Gen. Lee as excellent for his knowledge of Fortification & Abilities in all Branches of Military Service. He is gone to Howlands Ferry & under Command only of the Governor of Rd. Isld.

This Afternoon I conversed with Mr Wilson who left Newport on Monday—and he saw L<sup>t</sup> Webb who escaped thence on Wedn<sup>y</sup>. Not above seventy sail of the fleet—on Ldsdy 8<sup>th</sup> paraded 350 not 400 Kings Troops—a Serjeant told Wilson (who feigned himself a Tory) that 4000 was eno<sup>d</sup> for taking Newport, & that they had about 4 or 5000 (Others told him they were 8000). Mr. Manly from Newport says 3500 Hessians, 1000 British, & 1000 Marines, agreeable with the Serjeants account & number of Transports. Say 5000 Newport—5000 gone for Philad<sup>a</sup>—9000 Brunswick—3000 left in N. York. Total 22 Thousd. Defalcate 3 or 4000.

17. The flowing in of Troops has very much ceased since last Saturday; some returning. Rd. Isld Assembly sat last Sat<sup>y</sup>. Return of all the Troops collected on both sides the Bay not *Eight Thousand*.

18. The Levy of every fourth Man lately made by the Mass.



State is sending in towards establishing an Army around Rh. Isld.—& that State has levied two new Reg<sup>ts</sup> for the same Purpose. Various Accounts from the Westward. The Enemy evidently aim at Philad<sup>a</sup> & dispersing the Congress. Mass. have added Mr Lovel & Mr Dana to their 5 Members at Congress.

19. Dr Baylies & I paid a Visit to Col. Jerathmeel Bowers.<sup>1</sup> The Colonel is for Reconciliation and says he has assurance it may be done, as he is acquainted on both sides. He said L<sup>d</sup> Howe was impowered to offer these Terms, viz. *America to be allowed a Trade to all the World, all Duties on our Trade to G. Brit. & the British W. Indies to be abolished, & in Lieu of all a Duty of Eight per cent to be laid on all the Colony Foreign Trade.* Instructions to be withdrawn from the Kings Governors: & other Things as formerly. I told him the Parl<sup>t</sup> had not impowered L<sup>d</sup> Howe to this:—he said, the Parl<sup>t</sup> must vote as the Ministry directed, & intimated that the King & Min<sup>y</sup> had enabled L<sup>d</sup> Howe to make this Offer, if nothing else could be done; and the Colonel wished each separate Colony would send Commissioners to see & treat with L<sup>d</sup> Howe. I said we had petitioned King & Parlt. till our Patience was exhausted—that we sent 3 Gent. to wait on L<sup>d</sup> & receive his offers, & he made no such Proposal as a Parl<sup>y</sup> Relinquishm<sup>t</sup> of all Duties & Taxation, leaving 8 p Cent on foreign Trade only, nor shewed that he was invested with any Power but to grant Pardons to the innocent—and that the Negotiation & Compromise the Colonel mentioned would be, & imply a full Justific<sup>a</sup> of our Taking Arms. I also observed that it was now beyond the Power of the King, Min<sup>y</sup> & Parl<sup>t</sup> to convince America of their *Sincerity* even in such a Proposal, but we should conceive it all political Stratagem and Delusion: they never having yet lost sight of their grand Objects, *Subjugation & Revenue*, as L<sup>d</sup> North last Winter said in Parliament—: & L<sup>d</sup> Howe pledged himself to the King at taking Leave, that partly by *Force* & partly by *Negotiation* & other *political Influences* he would accomplish the Reduction of America. The Col<sup>o</sup> replied to all this—said the ministerial Connexions in & among the Colonies could & did begin to make the *ppl*e at large believe & realize the sincerity & Beneficialness of these Offers—that the ppl began to see the power of G. Brit. was irresistible, were wearied with the War, & wished a Treaty—that 8 Tenths of the Province of N York were now on the side of Parl<sup>t</sup>, & it had been told him that the *N. York Delegates had*

<sup>1</sup> Of Swansea, the town next south of Dighton.

been recalled & left the Congress at Philadelphia: that Jerseys were coming in apace—that if the Kings Army should get Philad<sup>a</sup>, Pensylv<sup>a</sup> would generally come in—& then the Army would have convinced all the Colonies that it was irresistible—and having formed such a great & weighty Crown Interest as to *break up our Confederacy*, the public would then be prepared for Treaty, when the above Offer would be made, & upon our acknowledging the Sovereignty of G. B., all Kindness & Clemency be shewn, & a Pacification take place. He said that Dr. Gardner<sup>1</sup> a Tory Refugee from Boston to Halifax, lately wrote a Letter to his son in Boston informing that he had moved to the southward to spend the Winter at L. Isld, & should soon be at home—& congratulated his friends that all things *were now settled & done, & Peace was once more now already established in America*. Strange! The Col. added that 8 per C. on foreign Trade was cheapest Way for Naval Protection.

20. When the Enemy struck their Tents at Whiteplains which was 25<sup>th</sup> of Nov. they left behind them the following, viz,—probably designed to deceive us.

“ One Battalion, viz 2d, commanded by Gen. Leslie in the Battle at White plains 28 Oct. 1776.

| Killed                    | Wounded          |
|---------------------------|------------------|
| 1 L <sup>t</sup> Colonel. | 2 Captains       |
| 1 Cap <sup>t</sup> .      | 1 Lieut.         |
| 1 Lieut.                  | 1 Ensign         |
| 1 Ensign                  | 12 Serjeants     |
| 1 Serjeant                | 109 Rank & file. |
| 22 Rank & file            | —                |
| —                         | 125 ”            |
| 27                        |                  |

## 21. Snow Storm. . . . .

The Congress have written to the N Engld Governm<sup>ts</sup> discountenancing their advance above the Continental Wages of the Army, as laying the Found<sup>a</sup> of Discontents among the Battalions of different States—& dismissing from Continental Service all such as Mass. Connect. & Rh. Isld might have so enlisted. Connect. Assembly have stated the Prices of Things & ordered the Commissaries for the Army to open Stores of Engrossers & take at a reasonable Price. Several Prizes brot into Boston. A Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of Dutches C<sup>o</sup> N. Y. Tories rusticated & stationed at Exeter, New Hampshire.

<sup>1</sup> Sylvester Gardiner. See Sabine's *Amer. Loyalists*, i, 459-62.

Reports that Gen Howe's Army had arrived at Trenton within 25 M. of Philadelphia—the Assiduity of masqued Tories inconceivably vigorous in propagating the Expediency of Treaty & Reconciliation & terrifying & subduing the public—& rendering all News but their own confused & uncertain. Enemy burnt last night the rest of the Houses on Prudence.

22. Ldsdy. A M. I preached on Luke xi, 13. P. M. 2 Cor. v, 21. Militia returning very fast yesterday & to day. All are dismissed but the Quarter Militia levied for 3 Months. All have left Warren—but 300 at Howlds Ferry, & Brig. Godfrey gone thither to-day—perhaps but 5 or 600 at Bristol. I fear we leave those places too naked & defenceless. Fine day. Snow 3 Inches. Reading Galæus' Notes on the Sybills . .

23. Mr Kilburn came out of Newport last Week—saw & estimated Gen Clintons Troops there not above *Two Thousd five hundred* on Rh. Isld. The largest Body that came in he saw & counted as passing by his house at the Entrance of the Town—they marched in a Column ten deep & 25 yards apart so they were easily counted—he counted them not above *Nine hundred*. They march out of town & return different Ways, which Returns the Tories call new Troops just marching in & use every Stratagem to deceive the public as to the real Number. I used to take Kilborn for a Tory, but he is urgent for our going into Newport with 3 or 4000 & offers to go in armed with them, being confident of driving the Enemy. He says the Enemy were bound to Halifax & had no Expectation of carrying Rh. Isld, but finding upon their coming in that we had evacuated it, they took possession.

Col Cushing & Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Baldwin this Morn<sup>g</sup> came from Bristol & called on me. All are returning except the *fourth-Men*, of which there will be about Two Thousd. One Reg<sup>t</sup> of them at Bristol commanded by Col. Hall consisting of Eight Comp<sup>a</sup> of 68 Men each, who has sent for me to be Chaplain to it. The fourth part of the Militia left in Massach. the middle of S— last were then draughted & ordered to hold themselves in Readiness to march to N. Y. & elsewhere to be in service 3 M<sup>o</sup> from Marching. Those of the neighboring Counties are marching to be stationed in Rh. Isld.

Last Even'g an officer from Bristol told me he judged there might be 7 or 800 at Bristol & 300 at Howlds ferry to whom Brig. Godfrey with say 6 or 700 marched yesterday. Many of the 4<sup>th</sup> Men are gone on furlough & Militia retained in their stead. Col. Cush<sup>g</sup>



told me, about a dozen Sail of Vessels of the Enemy sailed yesterday ; and a Deserter informed that the Gen. & Adm. were recalled to N. York.

Col. Edson<sup>1</sup> the Mass. Mand<sup>a</sup> Councillor fled to Halifax lately wrote his Wife that in a twelve M<sup>o</sup> he should return & all Things be amicably settled. So wrote Dr. Gardner from N York or L. Isld. Sundry Pacification folks incessantly assert the same thing. There seems no prospect of this by Conquest, they must rely on Intrigue & perhaps their Confidence is founded on the dernier offer being the Parl<sup>t</sup> to relinquish all for 8 ¢ Cent on foreign Trade. Col. Bowers told Dr. Bayles in my hearing that if he would visit him once a Week for one year, he would tell him something as good to the Doctor as a Thousd pounds, & left all in the dark,—the Col<sup>o</sup> don't doubt that Parl<sup>t</sup> will finally prevail—in which Case he & his friends may be assured of Favors if they only hold a present *Neutrality*, & talk for Accomodation. This Eveng. Mr ——— told me that a fourt<sup>h</sup> night ago he was coming out of Boston & fell in with Mr ——— who opened the plan of Pacification founded on 8 ¢ Cent foreign Trade, Parl<sup>t</sup> renouncing all Power of Tax<sup>a</sup> & Legis<sup>a</sup> &c & slyly persuaded &c. He added there was procuring covertly & secretly, a subscription to a Petition to L<sup>d</sup> Howe setting forth &c. praying for Life & Estate when the Kings Troops prevailed &c—these subscribers were permitted to appear as Sons of Lib<sup>y</sup>, talk for it, assist the Rebels by provision, carting Stores & every Thing but *taking Arms*, & were to talk much & incessantly for accomodation, but rather go to Goal than take arms. If a Majority could be thus bro't for Accomod<sup>a</sup> L<sup>d</sup> Howe would carry his point. This man told Mr ——— that the Colony of New York as a Body had come into this plan of Accomod<sup>a</sup>, petitioned L<sup>d</sup> & Gen Howe, & broken off from the Congress & Union.

24. . . . . Last Eveng. the French Gen Malmadie went across from Bristol in a Boat for Howlds Ferry ; but by Mistake was set ashore & left with only his servant on Commonfence Point, being the N<sup>o</sup> End of Rh. Isld. About X o'Clock Gen. Varnum crossed over to Howlds Ferry, & not finding Gen. Malmadie, nor any Boat arrived suspected the Mistake—instantly sent off a party, who went to the Pt. & found the General making a Raft to get over, and bro't him off.

<sup>1</sup> Josiah Edson (Harvard 1730), of Bridgewater. See Sabine's *Amer. Loyalists*, i, 402-03.

25. This day the Nativity of our Blessed Savior is celebrated thro' Three Quarters of Xtendom. Indeed the Coptic & Oriental Chhs keep another day; but the true day is unknown. On any day I can readily joyn with my Fellow Christians in giving Thanks to God for his unspeakable Gift, & rejoyce with them in the Birth of a Savior. Tho' had it been the Will of Christ that the Anniversary of his Nativity should have been celebrated, he would have at least let us have known the day. . . . .

26. Mr Geo. Leonard the Refugee is in Newport; he shewed his Journal to Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis, that the Kings Forces lost 500 chiefly Hessians in taking F<sup>t</sup> Washington. He expects all will be soon settled. I hear more of the Reconcili<sup>a</sup> plan circulating. This is doubtless the Olive Leaf; but it comes too late. Such an Offer in Answer to the last Petition of the Congress to the King would have been received with Joy; not so now. I mentioned it to a Merchant of Eminence, who had lost about £3000 sterling by the Enemy, & owned a Thous'd more in Houses in Newport.—He replied, he had rather loose all the rest & America throw themselves into the hands of France than to return to be under the Dominion of G. Britain. This is the secret which the Officers of the Navy at Halifax alluded too in their Convers<sup>a</sup> with Capt. Dennis (see Nov. 27) when they said all would be made up by Xtmas. This is what creates the Confidence of Col. Edson, Dr. Gardner, Mr. Leonard &c. They have been mistaken in judging what would take with the Americans heretofore—they may be so again. It has been a secret known & held in Confidence among many of the higher Officers of the Army. From which I collect, that it was a fact that L<sup>d</sup> Howe would not come off last Spring, before he was *empowered by the King to make this dernier Offer*; that this was seen necessary in the Cabinet; & therefore that the American Cause was *dispaired* of in the *Cabinet last Winter*; but in order to have the Chance of one Campaign more, all Things should wear the Aspect of the most vigorous & determined Resolution.

The Convention of Maryland have issued fundamental Principles of their Government—they have a Council &c —Catholicism of Religion—never shall be any hereditary Titles & Honors within that State. Qu. What becomes of Lord Baltimore?

Last Week a fine Prize was bro't into Dartmouth having Four Thousd Stands of Arms, & Ten Thousd Suits of Cloathing for the Kings Army at N York. A very opportune prize this for our Army!

27. M<sup>r</sup> Bradford Aid de Camp to Gen. Lee passed thro' Dighton this day just returned from the Western Army. He confirms the unhappy Tidings that the brave Gen. Lee is taken Prisoner by the Enemy. . . .

I spent this Eveng with Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis who escaped out of Newport Tuesday night 17<sup>th</sup> Inst. He tells me the Fleet consisted of *sixty sail* only viz. 10 Men o'War & fifty Transports: that after and while Landing Troops a little below Judge Stoddards on Rh. Isld Ldsdy morning, they sailed southward i. e. six or 7 Transports & landed only 300 at the Long Wharf, British, which marched up to the Parade. No more Troops came to Town till Tuesday or Wednesday when a Body of 800 Hessians marched in & were put into the two Presb. Meetinghouses. A few days after a part of these were marched out of Town, & a new body of Hessians came in, said by the Tories to be another Body, but known by the Inhabitants to be many of them the same—but suppose them different Troops—they were much fewer than the first Hessians. Only these two Bodies marched from off the Isld into Town. On Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis rode out by the W. Road to Bristol ferry & returned the East Rode, found troops from 5 or 6 to Ten quartered in most of the Houses on the Rodes, but saw not a body exceeding a dozen together, & judged there were not a *Thousd* on the whole Isld., except in Newport. They told him they were 14 Th. Ships & Land forces—others of them said 9500, and that the Army under Gen Howe was *fourty Thousand*—but Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis is certain they are not five Thousd on Rh. Isld. And when I observed to him that the two Hessian Bodies in Town if equal could not exceed 1600, with 300 and about 1000, would fall short of *Three Thousd* he seemed to think it a large Estimate. I imagine there may be 2000 Hessians and 500 Scotchmen. He says they are not Invalids but healthy.

28. Report that Gen. Howes Army are got to Philad<sup>a</sup> & the Congress removed to Annapolis. Cap<sup>t</sup> Davis visited me this Morning. He says the Troops are quartered on all the Inhab. Whigs & Tories indifferently—that Sir Peter Parker commands the Fleet—Gen. Clinton the Troops & has taken M<sup>r</sup> Chesebroughs house—L<sup>d</sup> Drummond has Cap<sup>t</sup> Ant<sup>o</sup><sup>ys</sup> House,—L<sup>d</sup> Piercy is there. He says, the Tories are disappointed & sick of their Company—and so are the Inhab. in general. A Permission is published for all Women & Children to leave the Town but to carry nothing with them.



This Aft. Cap<sup>t</sup> Gardner & I reviewed the Town of Newport from Memory, and found the Number of Names of Men with families now remaining in the whole Town but 260—we judge we have not overlooked many—judge there may be half as many Widow or female Families—estimate fewer than *five hundred Families* perhaps not above 350 now in Town. This confirms my Judgment that *Two Thirds* were evacuated last Year. In 1775 in the Spring a Numer<sup>a</sup> was made, 9200 souls in Town. At 6 to fam<sup>y</sup> this would be 1500 Families, but truely there were 1800. It is therefore most probable there is but one Quarter of the Inhabitants left shut up in the Town.

Major Rice studied Law with Hon. Jno Adams Esq and leaving Ticonderoga 7<sup>th</sup> Inst Dec. visited & spent several days or Evengs with his old Master not yet returned to Congress. In Convers<sup>a</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Adams—that he from the first expected the Conflict severer than hitherto—that he should not be discouraged if we met greater Disappointments—that even if the Enemy should take Philad<sup>a</sup> it might benefit the Cause—that he did not expect France would act offensively unless Russia or some great foreign Power should joyn Engld—that he doubted not of ultimate Success. Exactly my Ideas!

29. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at Dighton on Job ii, 10. P.M. Ps. xxxvii, 18. . . . .

1777.

January.

1. This day Mr. Bradford,<sup>1</sup> son of Gov. Bradford, visited me here at Dighton, where the Providence of God has cast me & my family, in the present tumultuous State of public Affairs. He was Aid-de-Camp to General *Lee*, and with him when he was taken the 13<sup>th</sup> ult. Mr. Bradford told me, that Gen. Lee & Syllivan crossed Hudsons River at Haverstraw with 3000 in that Division—Gen. Gates followed with 1700 in his Division—about 2000 Jersey Militia joyned us—and G. Lee had sent for G. Heath with his Division of 12 or 1500 to follow he being in the upper part of Jersey or at Peeks Kill. G. Lee had advanced with his Division to Baskenridge, about 22 miles from the Enemys advanced Guards,—where they lodged the night of Dec. 12<sup>th</sup> G. Sullivan being with the Body of the Division, & Gen. Lee in the Rear or on the flank of

<sup>1</sup> William Bradford, Jr., son of the Deputy Governor of Rhode Island.

the Rear about two miles from the body, hav<sup>d</sup> with him only his Aid de Camp M<sup>r</sup> Bradf<sup>d</sup>, a Major with an Express from G. Gates, a French Colonel, a French Captain the latter in our service, the former just from Paris, by the way of Dartm<sup>o</sup> in Mass. with Dispatches for Congress—& phps. a dozen Guards. The House was surrounded on one side with a Wood, on the other an Orchard. The General had sent forward G. Syllivan who marched with the Division about Eight o'Clock in the Morn<sup>g</sup>, tarrying himself to finish Dispatches to Gen. Gates. Which hav<sup>d</sup> just done, dressed & sent for his horses, was ready to mount, & would have been gone in five or ten minutes, when about Ten o'Clock they were surprized with about 50 horse, which came on the house from the Wood & Orchard at once & surrounding fired upon it. The French Colonel escaped & was pursued & overtaken. Gen. Lee looked out of the Window to see how the Guards behaved, & saw the Enemy twice with his hanger cut off the arm of one of the Guards crying for quarter :—the Guard behaved well, fired at first, but were rushed upon & subdued. The General saw then that they must submit—& after walking the Chamber phps ten or 15 minutes, told his Aid de Camp to go down & tell them Gen. Lee submitted. M<sup>r</sup> Bradf<sup>d</sup> went to the Door & on opening it a whole Volley of Shot came on the Door—he spoke loud & opened again & delivered his Orders. Gen. Lee came forward and surrendered himself a prisoner of War, saying he trusted they would use him like a Gentleman. Of this one of them gave assurance & ordered him instantly to mount. He requested his Hat & Cloke, & Mr. Bradford went in to fetch it—but changing his Cloaths on his return they did not know him from a Seryt & laying down the Generals Hat & Cloke, he escaped back into the house. They immed<sup>y</sup> rode off in triumph with the General—leaving a few to get the Horses from the Stable & take and bring off the rest of the Captives. But they now stood on their defence, fired & drove off the party. Mr. Bradf<sup>d</sup> immed<sup>y</sup> pushed forward to carry the melancholly Tidings to G. Sullivan, whom he overtook about Eight miles forward about noon. He whose Courage never failed before, when he walked out & surrendered himself lost all the Blood from his face & was pale with——.

M<sup>r</sup> Bradford says G. Lees Division was 2500 at this Time, 500 hav<sup>d</sup> been dropt by Sickness after leav<sup>d</sup> N<sup>o</sup> River. We might rely on it that Lee's & Gates Divisions amounted to at least *Four*

*Thous*<sup>d</sup> Effective—that the Enemy were *Nine Thous*<sup>d</sup> about twenty miles off:—that tho' Lee had been called to joyn Washington, he meditated an Attack upon the Rear of the Enemy. He says G. Lee was mortified with the State of our Army—expect<sup>g</sup> to have found 50 or 60 *Thous*<sup>d</sup> instead of 20 *Thous*<sup>d</sup>, & these ill provided.

He lamented, the Backwardness & Coldness of many in Jersey & some other parts; and that when America so abounded with Men, he wondered no more should offer & come forth in so glorious a Cause:—and that with only the pple of N. Engld, if all the other Colonies stood still, he would not fear to withstand the whole forc<sup>e</sup> G. Brit. will ever bring against America. He was, notwithstanding<sup>g</sup> all Difficulties in high Spirits & in full Expect<sup>a</sup> of defeat<sup>g</sup> Gen. Howe by a bold Stroke which he was about to give. A Brother Aid de Camp & G. Lee's Secretary, dismissed a few days before, being sick, at part<sup>g</sup> intimated to Mr. Bradford that there would be warm Work before they joyned G. Wash. discover<sup>g</sup> (as M<sup>r</sup> Bradfd judged) thus by the letters which the Secretary copied. Sometimes i. e. in other parts of the Campaign Gen. Lee would exclaim—Good God! have I come from gathering Laurels in many other parts of the World, to loose them in America? He *usually*, after supper & before going to bed, *read some Book*, till late sometimes Two or three o'Clock in morn<sup>g</sup>—& usually rose at Eight, unless Exigencies called him earlier, as the Morn<sup>g</sup> he was taken when an Express from G. Gates caused him to rise at four. He had an unshaken Confidence in the final Success of America, & was of Opinion the Ministry could not prevail on the Nation to exhaust themselves more than they had this Campaign.

On this N. Years day I begin the Bible again, in my daily private reading, keeping before me the Hebrew, and the Chaldee Targum of the O. T. with the Commentaries of Aben Ezra, Solomoh Ishaaki &c. in collateral columus. The 19<sup>th</sup> Sep. last I began the Syriac N. T. & intend to proceed also in this daily in my private reading of a daily portion both of Old & New Testament. This day I began the Acts of the Apostles in course.

3. M<sup>r</sup> Payne<sup>1</sup> a Member of Congress left it about the middle of last month; & arrived at Taunton tuesday last or Dec. 31. He says the Congress are removed to Baltimore in Maryland,—that whole City of Philad<sup>a</sup> have shut up shops, done Business except removing & going into the service—that the Congress are in full

<sup>1</sup> Robert Treat Paine, of Boston. See above, Nov. 7, 1774.



spirits notwithstanding<sup>2</sup> the Progress of the Enemy—hav<sup>e</sup> assurance of Assist<sup>a</sup> by Shipping next spring—that the Continental Battalions fill well—that when the Army is well constructed such measures will be taken as will effectually silence the Tories:—that Gen. Wash. was on the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> side over ag<sup>t</sup> Trenton, where the Enemy were. He rode at a Distance round, yet in Jersey heard that the Enemy crossed at Trenton & were repulsed—but it was only Report. Mr. Stevens of Taunton came home from Baltimore yesterday—says the Tories are numerous and prevailing in the southern part of Jersey, not in the northern—that the Northern had gone to the Southern & bro't off 3 or 400 head of stock:—that G. Wash. had only 5000 with him in his whole Retreat from Eliz<sup>a</sup> T<sup>o</sup> to Trenton & 4000 [2000] of these were Virginians, [Marylanders] whose Time was expired but persuaded to stay—& in short mixes up a deplorable & disheartening Acc<sup>o</sup> of the state of Things to the Westward.

M<sup>r</sup> Channing from the Assembly at Providence. He says that Gen. Spencer & Gen. Arnold are sent & G. Spencer is arrived there to take the Command of the Rh. Isld Army. A Meet<sup>g</sup> of Committes of the 4 N. Engld States convened at Providence last Week, Mess<sup>rs</sup> Cushing, Orne &c fr Mass. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Dyar, Law, Hosmer &c fr Connect. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Folsom &c fr N. Hamp. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Hopkins &c. fr Rh. Island. They fixed the Prices of Things, recommended a Gen. Fast thro' N. Engld 29 Janry, &c.<sup>1</sup>

4. The Town Council of Newp<sup>t</sup> last Thursday sent out 20 poor by a Flag. The Assembly resolved, that such whose Husbands or Brothers were in the Amer. Army should be received and no others. Gen. Clinton is obliged already to supply the Almshouse—and it begins to be very distressing for the T<sup>o</sup> of Newport. The Enemy availed themselves of the Breaking up of our Army, whose Enlistments are expiring, to make their Incursion into the Jersies. Gen. Wash. so forsaken & stript of Troops that he had but 3000 to retreat with to Trenton. And there a whole Brigade of Marylanders left him, their Time being out. When arrived at Philad<sup>a</sup> they were paraded before the Statehouse, & the Maryld Delegates in Congress came down to them & so affectionately harrangued them, that the whole Brigade returned & joyned the General—who was left with but about Three Thou<sup>sd</sup> effective men! May the Ld of Hosts pour out anew the Spirit of Liberty & Love of our Country,

<sup>1</sup> For further notice of this convention see Arnold's *Hist. of R. I.*, ii, 392.

that so noble a Cause be not deserted. It is said that Reinforcem<sup>ts</sup> are poured in so that Gen. Wash. has now about fifteen 'Thous<sup>d</sup> with him, & the Enemy are hopefully stop'd at Trenton. Last Monday Even<sup>g</sup> L<sup>t</sup> Webb came out of Newp<sup>t</sup> & says, that Ten Transports with 1000 are sailed back to N. York being sent for by G. Howe, & hav<sup>g</sup> left 3000—i. e.  $\frac{1}{4}$  &  $\frac{3}{4}$ —so as I judge G. Clinton bro't fewer than 3000 in all, 6 or 800 may have returned.

5. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached a New Years sermon Deut. xi, 11, 12. P.M. Heb. iii, 14. Several Newport Friends now resid<sup>g</sup> in Taunton attending. Reading M<sup>r</sup> Danforths<sup>1</sup> MS. Sermons.

6. A little before noon the follow<sup>g</sup> good News arrived here from Providence in a printed Hand Bill.

“Provid. Jan<sup>y</sup> 5, 1777. Fresh Advices from the Westward extracted from a New London Paper of friday last.

New London, Jan<sup>y</sup> 3, 1777. Yesterdy about one o'Clock the flag o'true mentioned in our last to have sailed from this port for N. York returned from thence with fourty prisoners (Seamen only) in Exch<sup>a</sup> for a number of British prisoners carried from hence: they chiefly belong to the State of Rh. Isld. Mr. Nath<sup>l</sup> Shaw Jun. who went in the above Flag on his Return from N. York put into New Haven, where an Express arrived on Wednesday (Jan<sup>y</sup> 1.) with the follow<sup>g</sup> interest<sup>g</sup> & important Intelligence sent by Express from Gen. Washington to G. Heath, who had transmitted the Acc<sup>o</sup> to this State, the Truth of which may be relied on viz, Isai. xxviii, 5, 6.

New Haven. Jan<sup>y</sup> 1. This Moment an Express arrived from the Westward with the follow<sup>g</sup> interest<sup>g</sup> Intelligence, viz, that early on the 26<sup>th</sup> of December General *Washington* with about *Three Thousand Men*, crossed the Delaware, and at Eight o'clock in the morning *engaged the Enemy at Trenton*, who were about sixteen hundred in number, and in *thirty five minutes routed the whole*, taking nine hundred and nineteen Prisoners exclusive of killed and wounded, viz. One Colonel, two L<sup>t</sup> Colonels, three Majors, 4 Captains, 8 Lieut<sup>s</sup>, 12 Ensigns, one Judge Advocate, 2 Surgeons mates, 92 Serjeants, 20 Drummers, 9 Musicians, 25 Officers *Servants*, *Seven hundred & fourty Rank & file*, 919 Total, exclusive of killed and wounded: together with six brass pieces, 2 of which were 12 p<sup>o</sup>, *twelve hundred small arms*, 4 Standards, 12 Brass Drums,

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Danforth (Harvard 1683), minister of Taunton from 1687 to 1727.

a number of Trumpets &c., six Wagons with swords &c., a number of Horses &c." παντοκράτορι Θεω μονῳ χάρις και δοξα.

7. Examining Texts in the Jerusalem Targum.

8. Informed that the Hessians improve my Meetinghouse, not for a Stable as was said, but for a place of Worship.

The News of Gen. Washingtons Victory confirmed.

9. A solar visible Eclipse. I observed it at Dighton. . . .

10. Confirm<sup>n</sup> of the Handbill—and flying Report that our Troops have surrounded and taken another party. One from Newport yesterd<sup>y</sup> by Flag informs, he sailed from N. York last Ldsdy and came to Newp<sup>t</sup> in fleet of 6 or 7 provision Vessels, a Prisoner dismissed by Gen. Howe as a sea captain. He says the news in N. York on Sat<sup>y</sup> was that another action had happened at Princetown, in which G. Wash. was successful. They are embark<sup>d</sup> Troops at Newp<sup>t</sup> & it is said that there would be left there but 2000 out of 6000—say  $\frac{1}{3}$  left—so if Total 3000 at first, they leave 1000 or 1500. Is it credible? Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hopkins of Newp<sup>t</sup> visited me last night & set out this day for his family in G. Barrington.

11. . . . From a Glasgow print of 12 Sep. 1776. "Col. McLean left Quebec the 20<sup>th</sup> of July. Gen. Burgoyne had not penetrated beyond Chamblee. His force was 6000 British & 2000 Foreigners. Two Reg<sup>ts</sup> of Foreigners were left in Garison at Quebec."

"The following is a State of Gen. Howes Force when joyned.

6000 effective he took from Halifax  
5600 fighting men of the Hessians  
1000 Guards  
2000 Highlanders exclusive of those taken  
3000 Gen. Clinton will bring  
2000 Light Horse, Artill<sup>y</sup> Marines."

—  
19,600

They make the American Army in April, 1776

|                                                     |   |               |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---|---------------|
| Eastern Departm <sup>t</sup> under G. Washington    | } | 20,404        |
| 27 Battal. of 728 men & 1 Batt. of Art <sup>y</sup> |   |               |
| In Canada Gen. Thomas &c 11 Battal. &c              |   | 11,644        |
| Middle Departm <sup>t</sup> 11 Batt., &c            |   | 8,728         |
| Southern D <sup>o</sup> 13 Battalions Gen. Lee &c   |   | 11,648        |
|                                                     |   | <u>52,428</u> |

Account of Embark<sup>n</sup> from Clyde in Scotland in April last two Reg<sup>ts</sup> viz. 42<sup>d</sup> in 11 Ships, the 71<sup>st</sup> in 23 Ships (names of each) of



five of which they had an Acc<sup>o</sup> in Engld of being taken. Here I remark the Transport<sup>a</sup> of two Reg<sup>ts</sup> (say 1500 men) employ a fleet of 33 Sail. Hence the 100 sail fleets may transport six Regiments or phps 5000. Hence the 50 or 60 Transp<sup>ts</sup> which came to Newp<sup>t</sup> last month might bring 3000. A fleet must bring Stores.

12. Ldsday at Dighton. I preached A.M. on Jno. v, 24. P.M. Acts xv, 18.

13. . . . The Congress on 10<sup>th</sup> Dec. issued a pathetic Address & Exhortation to the People in general, & part<sup>r</sup> to the Inhabitants of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & the adjacent States. This with other publications [The Crisis, No. 1] & exertions excited the public Spirit, and Gen. Washingtons Army with him is now Twenty two Thousand.

Last year 3 Vessels were sent out of E. Greenwich by the Assembly of Rh. Isld for Salt—two of which were taken. Some Vessels went from Providence. And last Fall the Assembly ordered a Distribution of all the Salt to the whole Colony at a price sufficient to defray the Charges & Losses—the Salt was delivered out at 7/3 L. M. circa. Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Vernon of Newp<sup>t</sup> tells me there was eno<sup>r</sup> for half a peck to a soul thro<sup>r</sup> the Colony—and that at the Numer<sup>a</sup> of the whole Colony last summer by order of Congress the Inhabitants of Newport within the Town were 6500, or above *six thousand*<sup>1</sup> [Mr. Southwick says 5300], which numb<sup>r</sup> for Newp<sup>t</sup> was made by Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Coddington, Sears, &c., men disposed to reckon high unwilling to have it tho't the Town was so much evacuated as it was. There were 100 or 200 Bush. of Salt remain<sup>g</sup> on board Vessel ten days uncalled for, of the portion allotted & sent to Newp<sup>t</sup>, which led them to think at Town meeting that 5 or 600 had left the T<sup>y</sup> since the Numeration. The Town ordered the Remainder to be bo't & reserved in part & partly to be distributed to 100 or 150 poor. The Total of Inhabitants in the whole Colony was about 59 Thous<sup>d</sup> two years ago.

In truth there was such Management at Newp<sup>t</sup> as keeps the true state of the numbers remain<sup>g</sup> there, in the dark. It should seem by the Numer<sup>a</sup> last summer that above Two Thirds remained & but one evacuated, for the Town in 1775 contained 9200 souls—whereas I estimate directly the reverse, *two Thirds evacuated & one third remaining*, I am knowing to this, that Salt was taken for & in behalf of some whole large Newp<sup>t</sup> families who were removed—a thing w<sup>c</sup> I believe was intended & permitted for those who were removed out

<sup>1</sup> Cf. below, March 19, 1777.

of the State of Rh. Isld As to the Numeration of the Town I conclude it was very cursory & inaccurate. The Butchers repeatedly told me there was not half the meat consumed as formerly—the worshipping assemblies reduced under half some to one third—the Town meetings less than before tho' now all attended hav<sup>e</sup> nothing else to do,—all shewing the Evacuation greater than the Tory Politicians, who rule the Town, chuse to have conceived—they dont chuse to be tho't to be left so much alone as they are. They can be high & low at pleasure. In the burn<sup>e</sup> of N York, they represented the Inhabitants left but few—but a few weeks after when an Address to L<sup>d</sup> Howe for Reconcili<sup>a</sup> was voted, the Inhab. were so numerous at Meeting that the Address could not be signed there, but it must be carried round the Wards of the City. Newp<sup>t</sup> is evacuated of above half its Inhabitants, I still judge two thirds.

This Morn<sup>g</sup> we received a Hand Bill printed yesterday at Providence contain<sup>g</sup> a Letter from Mr. Thaddeus Burr of Fairfield inclosed by Gov. Trumbull to Gov. Cooke.

“FAIRFIELD, Jany. 9, 6 o'clock Eveng.

“Gentlemen—

I herewith send you an Extract of a Letter from Col. Jesse Root dated Jany. 8, 1777, viz—Last night an Express arrived from Gen. Washington with the agreeable News that last friday (3 Jany) he attacked a party of the Enemy about three miles East of Princetown, killed & took 500: he also took six field Pieces & a great Quantity of Blankets, Stores, Waggon &c.—The Express also informs that on Sunday (5<sup>th</sup>) the Militia of Morristown turned out very spiritedly & that they attacked a party of Waldeckers took 35 & Killed several &c . . .

Gov. Trumbull also mentions a verbal acco<sup>t</sup> that Gen. Putnam had attacked, “killed & taken the whole 17<sup>th</sup> Regt. save 20 men, & nearly destroyed also the 46<sup>th</sup> & taken almost the whole Baggage of two Brigades.” The Gov. dont rely on this. But we have the same acc<sup>o</sup> by one come out of Newport a few days ago.

15. By one from Newp<sup>t</sup> to day, we have account that several Ships have sailed from thence for Engld. & that Gen. Clinton is gone in one of them. Gen. Prescott commands in Newport. The latter end of last week (friday) Gen. Varnum at Howland's ferry, with 2 18p<sup>o</sup> &c at fogland fired on the Man o' War there & obliged her to sail off.

A very animating piece called the American Crisis N<sup>o</sup> 1, was published at Philad<sup>a</sup> about 10<sup>th</sup> Dec.—it is reprinted at Boston. I read it yesterday. Its Author is Mr. Payn Author of Common sense.

17. Confirm<sup>a</sup> of Washington's Victories.<sup>1</sup>

18. The Providence print of this day, contains G. Washington's Letter to Congress of 27<sup>th</sup> Dec. giving acc<sup>o</sup> of the Action at Trenton the day before. Report of another Action. Also a Gent. from Halifax says a Vessel from Engl'd arrived there lately & next day he heard Gen. Massey declare on Change that a french War was inevitable & that the Rebels would hold America. In the Canonade of the Cerberus at Fogland last week, we killed 4 men & wounded 7 more. . . . This Morn<sup>e</sup> Therm<sup>o</sup> at 5½, yesterday Morn<sup>e</sup> 2½ above 0.

19. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at Dighton on Col. ii, 14. P.M. Tit. iii, 7. Reading Wall's Hist. of Infant Baptism.

Among the Reflexions & Contempl<sup>a</sup> of this day I took a Review of all the Religions of Every Age & Nation in the World, and examined my Heart as to its preference of the Christian Religion. . . . It has given me some Indignation to see so little Charity among Xtian Sects, & such an Engagedness & Zeal to build up Sects rather than make Xtians. Those which have fallen within my Connexion have manifested this to a great Degree. I sat out in Life with an extensive Charity to all Protestants, suppos<sup>e</sup> their Differences founded in conscientious Judgment, & wish<sup>e</sup> all to live in Forbearance, mutual Love & Harmony, & all to joyn in their several ways in promot<sup>e</sup> Righteousness & Virtue. But I have found the reverse. I find the Chh of Engld. in America esp<sup>y</sup> N. Engld inspired with a secular principle, unanimated with the Love of Jesus so much as with the Love of Dignities & Preeminence, making the Chh. an Asylum for polite Vice & Irreligion. Their Arg<sup>ts</sup> for proselyting are very seldom from Scripture, but from national Establish<sup>t</sup>, Politeness &c. The most profane Swearers & abandoned Debauchees known, & continuing such, are welcome to the Altar. The greater part of their Converts in N. Engld. had fled from other Communion for Drunkenness, Whoring, Swearing, or other moral Scandal—I say the greater part, & I say it from a very particular Examination of the History of Chh. Proselytism here for 50 y. past.

<sup>1</sup> In an account book of Dr. Stiles for 1777, under this date he says :

I have 21 Doll. & owe nothing in Dighton except what is advanced for preaching, viz. about 550<sup>lb</sup> Beef @ 3½<sup>d</sup>—320<sup>lb</sup> pork @ 6<sup>d</sup> & 100<sup>lb</sup> @ 4<sup>d</sup>—2 Bush. Corn, 3 Bush. Potatoes, 20<sup>lb</sup> Tallow @ 8<sup>d</sup>. Tot. £19. circa. Equal about 15 Sabb. preaching which I began Nov. 24<sup>th</sup> ult.—will be p<sup>d</sup> for by 1<sup>st</sup> Sabb. March.



The Baptists are a religious pple. & do not generally cover Scandal; but are guilty of this Absurdity that if the World with its numerous Millions was already Xtianized & in the opinion of Baptists regenerated & become the *real Disciples* of Christ, and had all been baptized or as they would call it washed on the face with water in the name of the Trinity & this done from a principle of Obed. to Christs Institution—Baptists would consider all this as nothing—& would refuse Communion at the Lds Table with such, tho' they at the same time readily say that they expect to sit down with them in the K<sup>m</sup> of Glory. They consider it doing eminent service for X<sup>t</sup> to go about thro' Xtendom & persuade them not to become Xtians, for they allow them such already, but to be re-baptized by Immersion: The Unitas Fratrum consider all Xtendom apostate except phps. 150 or 200 Congregations in the World of their Connexion; & that the World have need to be *renovated* into their Model. The Quakers would renovate all to a Renunciation of all outward Ordinances. The Scotch Presbyterians look with pity on the N. Engld. Chhs & desire to renovate them to the Model of the Kirk. The Sandimanians are the most rigid of all. All these except the Presb. refuse Communion to each other.

. . . . The Congregationalists & Presb. of America are the most truly Charitable & Catholic of any part of Xtendom—their Chhs (with some very few exceptions) will receive to the Lds Table the Communicants of all Protestant Chhs as already *Xtianized*—i. e. if of good Characters. But neither the Episcopalians, Baptists, Moravians, Tunkers, &c will admit Communicants of other Chhs, without making them over anew in their own way. This we do not do, having true Catholicism & Charity. I have differed from most of my Brethren in N Engld. in a too great Extent of Charity—judge more of diff. Communions true Children of Gd. than they did. And when I first set out in Life I had a much better opinion of Mankind & of the different Sects as to *Sincerity* & *Virtue* than I now have. I never was *particular & exclusive* eno' for a cordial & close Union with any Sect even my own. I could not condemn all as Arminians & Arians in N Engld. whom the Ministers & Chhs. in general tho't such, & gave offence or was less acceptable to my Brethren by being too Charitable to such. I have been accused of too great a Charity to the New Divinity Authors, because I esteemed their piety and their soundness in the Doctrines of the *Trinity* & *Satisfaction*, & Justific<sup>a</sup> by Xts *imputed Right.*, and

special *Grace in Regeneration, Perseverance, &c* ; while I detest their making *God the Author of Sin*, that the Unregen. sin more by praying & using the means of Grace than neglecting them, that Guilt increases with Conviction, that a man may be regenerated in his sleep, that for an unregen. Man to be killing his father & mother was a less sin than to pray to Gd for Pardon, that the Damn<sup>a</sup> of Wives, Children & friends will be one chief source & cause of our Joy & endless Happ. in Heaven ; that we have reason to bless God for efficaciously influencing Sin, for the Fall of Man, for the sin of Judas. & the Jews in crucifying Jesus, & in general for the fall of Devils & the great Mass of moral & natural Evil in this World. These uncouth, venomous & blasphemous Positions I detest. These Gent. have of late altered their Sentiments as to some of these Things—but they still hold the most of them—and once held all of them & others of a like nature. And one of them has refined himself into Socinianism.

I have neglected several opportunities of forming or at least taking part & figuring in several respectable Coalescences. But foreseeing the Lengths their Systems would carry me, I stopped—& am, perhaps, more than any man of extensive Acquaintance & Correspondence—ALONE—and unconnected in the World ; while I have the pure & daily pleasure of an inward conscious & cordial Union with all the *good*, with those who love & those who hate me, with the numerous Millions who know me not, with the whole Collection of Characters in all Nations of every kind & degree of Excellence, literary or moral Worth ; above all, my soul unites most sincerely with the whole Body of the Mystical Chh., with all that in every Nation fear God & love our Ld Jesus Christ. These, stript of all the peculiarities w<sup>c</sup> externally separate them from one another & from me, I embrace with a true spirit of universal Love. But to love a whole Character, or a whole Chh., or any whole Fraternity whether literary, religious or politic, I do not find within me. Entering into whatever scene, I meet with many Inconcinities & am disgusted too much for Acquiescence in any here below. I never shall cordially & externally unite with Mankind in any of their Affairs, Enterprizes & Revolutions. There is a preference of Systems, but no perfect one on Earth. I expect no great Felicity from fellowship & open communication with Mankind. But intend to become more & more the recluse—waiting for the Rest of Paradise, where I foresee my soul will unite with perfection & acquiesce in eternal universal Harmony.

21. Variety of Reports. Uncertain.

23. The Generals Spencer & Arnold are at Howlands Ferry, regulating things there preparatory to going upon the Isld. to Newport. . . .

24. A violent Snow Storm, wind high S.E.

25. I received a Letter from Major Otis<sup>1</sup> dated last Monday in Connecticut.

"MIDDLETOWN Jan'y 20, 1777.

—"I most heartily wish you Joy on the repeated Success of our Arms at the Westward; both at Trenton, Princetown & elsewhere. It seems since affairs have taken a more favorable Turn that the Jersey Militia have found their hands & are doing well; they took 240 British Troops with one hundred Waggon Load of Baggage. The prisoners are arrived in this state who I believe will find very different treatment from those who were lately sent from here to be exchanged at Newport, who past through here with near fifty slay loads of men, women, children, and Bagage, all in good health fat & well feed y<sup>t</sup> I did not see one sickly one amongst them; when those that come from New York are starved, seven hundred died in the City, fourty upon the passage to Milford, 27 since, and many more which 'tis feared will not long survive their broken & decayed Natures, besides their send<sup>d</sup> them in a ship infected with the small pox of which several are now sick. Such treatment has raised the Resentment of y<sup>e</sup> Inhabitants of this Colony that the Assembly have taken it up & wrot General Washington and remonstrated to Gen<sup>l</sup> Howe against such savage usage. Cursed be their Anger for it is cruel. There seems to be a determination in the Generals Heath & Parsons to visit N. York who sat out from Pecks Kills Wednesday last (Jan. 15) about ten o'clock with about *Five Thousand Men*. Sixteen Companies were commissioned by the Gov. here last week going as Volunteers for two or three weeks in expectation to plunder their Magazines in the City—We hear by Letters from Gen. Parsons that a whole Brigade of Hessians have refused to do any more duty, upon which they were disarmed & sent for New York. Our Assembly have complied with the doing of the Committee att Providence & have stated Provisions &c agreeable to their Resolves; have also put a stop to Distilling of Grain within this State, &c—One of our Officers heard an Hessian Officer say that they had lost of their people by sickness, killed & taken prisoners full *four Thousand Men*; if this be true tis no wonder they are tired of their Duty.—

"I forgot to tell you that the British Court have made a Demand of one Silas Deane Esq. who they say is an Ambador from their Rebellious Colonies to the Court of France and order that he be forthwith delivered up to Lord Stormont.

"6 o'clock. General Heath has taken fort Washington [Only invested F<sup>t</sup> Independence] fryday (Jan. 17) without loss of a man. Saturday (Jan. 18) marched for the citey which wee expect to have in our hands to morrow."

JONATHAN OTIS.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, June 29, 1775.



The Gen. Assembly of Connecticut for some reasons sat lately at Middletown & broke up their session on fryday 17 Jany. after near a months Session. Here therefore was the fountain head of News in Connecticut. An Express bro't a Letter from Gen. Parsons directed to Gov. Trumbull or in his absence to the first Magistrate in Middlet<sup>o</sup> suppos<sup>d</sup> the Assembly sitting there. The express lodged in F<sup>t</sup> Washington the night after it was taken & arrived at Middlet<sup>o</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> Inst.

26. Ldsdy at Dighton. A.M. I preached on Ps. cxxxviii, 6. P. M. Isai. xi, 10, and notified the public Fast next Wednesday. The Congress by Resolve of Dec. recommended to the several States the appointment of a General Fast. The Committees of the 4 N. Engl<sup>d</sup> Governments met at Providence for adjusting the public Measures, agreed on Wednesday the 29<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> for a Coincidence of these N. E. States in one day. They purposely avoided the 30<sup>th</sup> because it was Charles's day. The Gen. Assemblies of Mass. & Rh. Isld. (& I suppose Connect & N. Hamp) have issued Proclamations accordingly.

27. Col. Hall tells me he passed thro' Taunton today when he saw Mr. Payne (Member of Cont. Congress) who told him a Man passed thro' Taunton who lodged in F<sup>t</sup> Washington since it was taken. Mr. Payne also said he came from Boston last Saturday & yesterday one came fr. B<sup>o</sup> & says a Prize is just bro't in there hav<sup>g</sup> English or London Letters of a late Date, importing great Commotions all over Engld. upon their now at length perceiving in reality they must encounter a French War.

28. Enemy opened a Trench at Fogland ferry on Rh. Isld. side, last friday; to day Enemy in Numbers at N<sup>o</sup> End of the Isld. at Bristol Ferry. Our pple fired Canon across to them. Mr. Gardner from Providence to day, says, Letters came in there dated at Morrist<sup>o</sup> 16<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from Gen. Wash. & Gen. Greene to Gen. Spencer at Providence, advis<sup>g</sup> that the Enemy will leave Newp<sup>t</sup> & directing G. Spencer to annoy their Retreat. G. Green writes that while our Affairs were at their lowest State the General Assembly of Virginia passed an Act for Banishment of Tories in 40 days upon Pain of Death. Troops are daily arriv<sup>g</sup> at Providence, some from Kennebec.

D<sup>r</sup> Church was wavering when he delivered his Oration in 17—. He was a firm Patriot at penning the Suffolk Resolves Sept. 1774—he was already corrupted at the Battle of Lexington Apr. 1775.

It is matter of Inquiry, the time of corruption? I tho't his conduct odd, and Bravado like, in going into B<sup>e</sup> after Lexington, carrying in Letters, being taken up, carried before Gen. Gage, in being suffered to talk so laconicly as it was said he did to Gage. In the Summer of 1775 he was up at Newp<sup>i</sup>, but little seen by Friends of Liberty, & his Cousin Ch. then said he was not good. Col. Ezra R——<sup>1</sup> tells me D<sup>r</sup> Chh. was at Newp<sup>i</sup> between 5<sup>th</sup> March & Lexington, he spent Even<sup>e</sup> with the D<sup>r</sup> at Dighton & found him unaccountable & shrewd & sagacious. The Col. asked, w<sup>h</sup> would the End of these things be? His Answer vague, yet implying that after fight<sup>e</sup> awhile the affairs would be compromised, yet so that America would be conquered & G. B. carry her point. Also said, he & Hancock &c had been invited to dine with Gen. Gage who treated them with great Politeness & Affability, & beg'd them to use their Influence to prevent the Oration 5 March—that a week after Gage sent for him:—& says Chh., what would you think of £30000.—The Colonel thinks he realized 25 Thousd. So his Conversion in March 1775; He is now in B<sup>e</sup> Goal. [Suffered to escape fr. B<sup>e</sup> 1778.]<sup>2</sup> . . . . .

29. This day is a Fast thro' the 4 N. Engld Governments. I preached at Dighton A.M. on Deut. v. 29, P.M. Ps. lx. 3. 4. The Minority it is said have left the Parliament. Three new Reg<sup>ts</sup> raising, one in Eng<sup>d</sup>, one in Scotl<sup>d</sup>, one in Irel<sup>d</sup>—all at one shill<sup>e</sup> a day, i. e. double pay. This shews it not easy to raise Men in Engld. in November last. Besides this will occasion a Mutiny in the Army in America, as all will claim double pay. Does sterling Money depreciate?

30. Spent the Even<sup>e</sup> with Mr. Richmond an officer in the Army. He left Gen. Washingtons Camp at Morristown Ldsdy before last or 19<sup>th</sup> Instant; was at Peeks Kill 21<sup>st</sup> & arrived here to day. He was of Gen. Cadwalladars Division at Bristol, & to have crossed over to Burlington 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. but prevented by Ice. Afterwards was of a party that went to Burlington, M<sup>r</sup> Holly & Bordenton & Croswick. While at Croswick, Gen. Wash. ordered them to Trenton about 3 Janry. Hence he marched with Gen. Washington to Princet & Morristown: He was in Col. Hitchcocks Brigade which routed the Enemy near Princet<sup>e</sup> & in the action. He gave

<sup>1</sup> Richmond, of Dighton.

<sup>2</sup> See above, Oct. 2, 1775. He was sent to Connecticut in Nov., 1775. and on his health failing was allowed to embark for the West Indies in 1776.

me this account of the March which was a masterly piece of Generalship.

The Town of Trenton may be 150 Houses situated on a little Stream or Rivulet four rods wide with a mill on it. It is built on both sides & communicates by a Bridge. It is about a Mile or  $1\frac{1}{2}$  M. distant from the Ferry over Delaware. G. Wash. had crossed the Delaware a second time & lay in Trenton the begin<sup>g</sup> of the year.

Upon news of the Advance of the Enemy, an advance Guard of 400 with Artill<sup>y</sup> were ordered out four Miles from Trenton to meet the En<sup>y</sup> & fight on the Retreat, also a second party of 100 or more were stationed a q<sup>r</sup> mile out of Town to cover & support this retreating party. Mr. Richmond was of this 100. He tells me the first Thing he saw was the 400 with horses & field pieces returning with great Speed & passing by the 100—followed by the Enemy running in crouded confusion & without order, the whole road full, driving after us. Upon which the 100 also retreated with the 400 till they crossed the bridge over to the south side of the T<sup>o</sup> where G. Wash. army lay. The Enemy followed on & came up to the Bridge. G. Mifflin was stationed there with some Field Pieces, which he played on the Enemy at the Bridge so as effectually to prevent their crossing over: & thereupon they formed, canon shot off. This was tow<sup>d</sup>s night or sun an hour high. Thus the 2 Armies was posited in the Even<sup>g</sup>.—The Bridge being crouded with the passing of our retreating party, some of them forded the Rivulet & found the Water but Breast high. The Enemy came with a sufficient strength as they supposed at least to dislodge G. Wash. & repossess Trenton if not to proceed to Philad<sup>a</sup> accord<sup>g</sup> to their first plan. Mr. Richmond called them 7 or 8000, & said they exceeded our Army with the General. They probably were *five Thousd*, & phps. ours as many or rather less.

About Midnight march<sup>g</sup> orders were spread thro' G. Wash. Camp, & they instantly marched off to the southw<sup>d</sup> suppos<sup>d</sup> themselves going tow<sup>d</sup>s Burlington, till they turned northw<sup>d</sup>. Sun an hour high in the morn<sup>g</sup> they at Maidenhd, 2 or 3 Miles off of Princet<sup>o</sup>, came up with a Body of the Enemy (some say 500, none above 800), phps. 4 or 500, which advanced and a Battle ensued. Mr. Richmond was in it being in Col. Hitchcocks Brigade. Now this is known to be one of the best disciplined Brigades in the Continental Service—I know it had this Reput<sup>n</sup> at Prospect Hill at



Cambridge. Gov. Mercer with the Philad<sup>a</sup> Militia desired & were permitted the honor to begin the attack—they accord<sup>y</sup> met the Enemy, gave two fires, suffered Gen. Mercer to fall wounded into the Enemys hands, & began to be broken. Gen. Washington then in the midst of the Fire ordered the N Engld. Brigade under Col. Hitchcock about 400 to attack. They rushed on, made five fires & in six minutes had the En<sup>y</sup>s Art<sup>y</sup> & pushing on routed the Party, & took about 200 and marched to Princetown. This party of Enemy getting Notice of our March had sent to Trenton, & instantly the Body there returned, & had arrived within two miles of Princeton, when G. Wash. left Princeton & proceeded on the road 6 or 7 miles tow<sup>ds</sup> Brunswick. He then turned off to the left & took the road to Somerset Courthouse, where they arrived that night. But without halting they proceeded to Planket, & there lodged the third night. Thence they came to Morristown 17 Miles from Brunswick. The Enemy marched to Brunswick, G. Wash. hav<sup>e</sup> disadjusted & broken their Plan.

Mr. Richmond also gave an Acc<sup>t</sup> of the Battle at *White Plains* last fall, which was the largest & grandest Arrangem<sup>t</sup> of the 2 Armies in Battle array he had ever seen. There is a spacious plain, but not so large as that at Rehoboth. Our Army was drawn up in a Line of two Miles in front. On the day they threw up an earth Line or Breastwork along the whole front. The left Wing reached up to an impassable Hill. Gen. McDougal commanded the left Wing on an Eminence. At some Distance behind this, our best Troops were stationed & advantageously posted on sundry Eminences commanded by Gen. Lee. If the front Line had been forced by the Enemy it was intended they should have retreated to G. Lee & there made a stand. The several Generals were stationed along the Line with their respective Corps three deep. The Enemy approached not in Lines but in solid Columns, till within Canon shot & halted. Our Artillery playing on them from all along the front Line.

This was the Position of the Armies for some time. At length the left wing of the Enemy marched up to the Right of our Army seeming as if beginning a general Engagem<sup>t</sup>. A solid Column marched towards our Line, then turned off to the Right—and came round the Eminence on which G. McDougal was posted, which was attacked at the same Time by the solid Column, together with a party of Cavalry coming on in the form of a Wedge,—and after a

few minutes sharp Battle the Enemy gained that Eminence & G. McDougal retired within the Lines. This was all the Action. The Enemy instead of engaging in a general Action, tho' the Position of G. Washington's Army offered it, contented themselves with this Hill & rested there. Our Army kept their Position, & did not leave their Lines in two days. Then G. Washington with his Troops retired to the Heights where G. Lee was posted. The Enemy after lying here a little time suddenly decamped in the night, & turned their course towards the Jersies. Hitherto they came & no further northward, turned about & gave over their Enterprize of a Junction with the Canadian Army. Here they altered their plan, & adapted a new Mode of War, i. e. to ravage the Jersies, march to Philad<sup>a</sup> & disperse the Congress &c. Thence-forw<sup>d</sup> the War took a new Face. The Progress was rapid to Trenton; & there again they met a repulse & stop westward, as they had at White Plains received a stop to their Progress northward.

February.

1. . . . . Last Tuesday about twenty five Transports sailed from Newport, undoubtedly for N York: probably carried about half the Troops with them; so may have left about 12 or 1500 at Newport.

2. Ldsdy I preached at Dighton. . . . . Reading D<sup>r</sup> Watts's Lyric Poems & D<sup>r</sup> Sam. Clarkes Sermons.

6. I preached M<sup>r</sup> Smiths Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lecture, Heb. 1, 3. Mr. Libbey of Piscataqua this day bro't me the Invit<sup>a</sup> of the first Chh. there, late the Charge of Presid<sup>t</sup> Langdon, to come & labor in the Ministry there.

REV. SIR

DIGHTON, Feb. 7, 1777.

I have long ago given myself up to the service of the div. Jesus, & desire always to be at the Disposal of the g<sup>d</sup> Head of the Chh. in w<sup>e</sup>ver part of the Vinyard he may command my Labors. It has pleased him in his holy Prov. to break up & scatter my dear flock; but my pastoral Rel<sup>a</sup> is not dissolved: dur<sup>g</sup> their Dispersion I am ready to serve any vacant Chh. If this Disper. shd be of long Continuance, my temp<sup>s</sup> resid. in any part. Chh might phps. terminate in a settlement. Mr. Libbey has bro't me the Applic<sup>a</sup> of the Chh. & Cong. of Portsm<sup>o</sup> late the past<sup>d</sup> charge of the Rev. Presid<sup>t</sup> Langdon. I am much honored by this Invitation, & by the Importunity w<sup>th</sup> w<sup>e</sup> the Pres<sup>t</sup>, yourself, & Mr. Stevens have accompanied it. I shd. be very happy in the Vicinity of such worthy Connexions. If the Congreg<sup>a</sup> look for immediate settlem<sup>t</sup> I shall miss this Satisfaction. If it shd. be agreeable to them that I shd. minister to them

in the *Word & Ordinances* for a year or more or till the End of the War (if it shd. please Gd. I shd. live to that) leaving the consider<sup>a</sup> of settlement to the future Openings & Orderings of divine Providence, I shall willingly devote my Labors to their service, tho' I am sure I shd. fall short of your Expectation & theirs. I am engaged here till the Spring which is at hand. When the Winter is passed, I shall be ready to engage elsewhere, not only to *preach* but to *administer Baptism & the Lds. Supper* i. e. to perform the whole work of the Ministry dur<sup>g</sup> my Residence with any Chh. To this purpose is the answer I have given Mr. Libbey.

I concur w<sup>th</sup> you, Sir, in Thanksgivings to G<sup>d</sup> for the late happy Change in the aspect of our pub. Affairs. I have great Confidence in the God of o<sup>r</sup> Fathers that he will protect his protestant Zion here, & carry the free & Indep<sup>t</sup> Republic of the UNITED STATES thro' the arduous, momentous, glorious struggle of the present day, estab. o<sup>r</sup> Liberty on a firm Found<sup>a</sup> & make America the Joy of the whole Earth. He will get Glory to his great Name, & Honor himself in the View of all Nations by the Revolutions, Transactions & Events his Omnipotent Arm is accomplishing among us in this period of his Moral Government. May a holy God humble us, turn us to himself, excite an universal Supplic<sup>a</sup> at the Throne of Grace & in his own time grant us a glor. Deliverance.

My Respects to Mrs. Haven. I am D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Your affectionate Brother  
and unworthy Fellow Laborer

Rev. D<sup>r</sup>. Haven

EZRA STILES.

. . . In Answer to Letters received yesterday by Mr. Jeremy Libbey, one of the Committee and a Messenger from the first chh. & Congregation in Portsmouth, N. Hampshire, inviting me to the Work of the Ministry there.

#### THE REV. DR HAVEN'S LETTER TO ME.

"PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Feb. 3, 1777.

"REV. & D<sup>r</sup> SIR

The first Dictates of Friendship and brotherly affection lead me to sympathize with you in the Distresses lately brought on you, & the pple of your charge, by our cruel but common Enemy. What is still in the purposes of the *Supreme Ruler* concern<sup>g</sup> us time only must reveal. But we are assured He who is infinitely wise & Good rules the world, & we will rejoyce.

While Gd. has shut, for the present, the Door of your usefulness among your dear People, it may be a more effectual one is open in Portsmouth. The particular circumstances of the People who invite your Labours among them, the Bearer of this will inform you of. I am persuaded the Request is general, & doubt not your Labours will be very acceptable, sure I am they are very necessary. I could enlarge on the unusual Cares which have devolved on me since President Langdon removed to Cambridge—but Modesty would blush at such Complaints.



Give me Leave, my dear Sir, to say, should the great Head of the Chh. dispose you to accept their Invitation, I shall promise myself great Satisfaction in such a Friend & in such a Fellow Helper.

The subject of our dear Country opens too large a Field for Lordsday Eveng. It is presumed we joyn in Gratitude to God, who has so surprizingly shifted the scene within these few weeks. He holds our Eye still dependent on him.

Mrs. Haven joyns me in best regards to you & your dear connexions. If your Leisure will permit, be assured the more you write the more grateful your Letter will be to

Your cordial Friend & Brother

SAMUEL HAVEN<sup>1</sup>

On the same Letter added

“SAB. EVENG, Date as above.

“DEAR SIR

I am on a visit to my Dear Flock; pity them; earnestly wish they may be provided for; have not time to urge the Argum<sup>ts</sup> which rise warmly in my Mind; but joyn in the Importunity of my Dear Brother Haven that you will come and help him & my Dear Flock which I have been called in Providence to Leave——

Your sincere Friend & Serv<sup>t</sup>

D<sup>r</sup>. Stiles.

SAM<sup>l</sup> LANGDON——”

I received also a long Letter from Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Stevens of Kittery urging the same thing.<sup>1</sup>

Extract of votes of the Congregation.

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, }  
ROCKINGHAM SS. }

At a meeting of the Parishioners of the first Parish in Portsmouth at the North Meetinghouse &c——Jany 27, 1777.

Voted ——

—— It being recommended at this meeting to send to the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles late Minister of the Gospel at Newport, now at Dighton, if at Liberty to settle, to give him an Invitation to come & preach with us, if not some other person well recommended, if there is a probability of their settling.” —— &c.

8. . . . . Mr. Cranston is in Dighton—lately from Newport—he was L<sup>t</sup> of a Privateer, & put in Goal by the Enemy in Newport & kept there three days *without food or Drink*; his wife not suffered to come near him nor any friend. He was three times

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Dr. Haven (Harvard 1749) was minister of the South Church in Portsmouth from 1752 to 1806; Rev. Dr. Langdon (Harvard 1740) had been settled over the North Church in the same town since 1747; and the Rev. Benjamin Stevens (Harvard 1740) was pastor at Kittery from 1751 to 1791.

Dr. Stiles had long been on terms of intimacy and frequent correspondence with Dr. Langdon and Mr. Stevens.

offered the Kings Pardon or Proclam<sup>a</sup> to sign, which he refused to the last. His father in law at length gave the Hessian Goaler 30 Dollars & he permitted the wife to see him only thro' the Grates, & she secretly handed in some Victuals. He was buffeted till the Enemy were tired—when he was suffered to go in a general Goal Deliv<sup>y</sup>, but guarded directly down to the Boat, not suffered to go home & see his family in Town. They pulled down his House.

9. Ldsdy. At Dighton I preached A M. on Ps. lviii, 11. P. M. Gal. ii, 20. Heard of D<sup>r</sup> Hunters Death in Newport. He was Scotch Physician—spent about two years in attending the medical Lectures in the University of Edinburgh—then came over to America 1754 circa, with nothing. Settled at Newport, where he got an Estate, turned Chhman, became as haughty as a Scotch Laird, high in ministerial & parliam<sup>y</sup> Measures, an inveterate Enemy to American Liberty—dressed well, was much of the Gentleman, lived high & luxuriously—could approve nothing but what was European, despised American Literature & Colleges—of polite Morals. Of natural good Sense & a Taste for the belles Lettres—but not a man of any great Reading in any Branch of Learning, even that of his own Profession. He tho't he bro't knowledge eno' with him out of Scotland, at æt. 21, for a physician in America. He determined his Mode of Religion upon secular & political Motives, such as would have joyned him to a Mosque in Turkey, the House of Rimmon at Damascus, or S<sup>t</sup> Peter's at Rome. Had he taken time for inquiry into his own real *principles*, he would probably have found them the same as David Humes or some other Scotch Deist—but he was not disposed for such a self-examination; and had he known himself a Deist, he would yet have been a Scotch Chhman in New Engld. from his Hatred of New Engld Presbyterians. He lived to see the Landing of the Kings Troops & their taking Newport to his great Joy & high Satisfaction. He has long promised himself to rejoyce in the intire Conquest of the *dom'd* Rebels, as he called us, & the subjugation of America!<sup>1</sup>

10. This day is 20 years since I was married to my dear Wife now with God . . . . It is said that Gen. Howe has issued a Proclam<sup>a</sup> in N. Jersey commanding all Persons who had accepted his Protection, to repair to his Army.

At an adjourned Sup. Court in Hartford in Connecticutt the 3<sup>d</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See also Mason's *Annals of Trinity Church, Newport*, i, 120-21.

Tuesday Jany last Moses Dunbar of Waterbury was indicted for high Treason against these States, having taken a Captains Commission from Gen. Howe & enlisting Troops for George the 3<sup>d</sup> to joyn the Enemy. He was found guilty & received the sentence of Death. This is I suppose the first Instance of the kind in these States. "The 19<sup>th</sup> day of March next is appointed for the Execution of Moses Dunbar of Waterbury for High-Treason."

Joseph Galloway Esq. Speaker of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Assembly, and Member of Congress i. e. formerly, with C. Justice Allens 3 Sons &c went over to the Enemy while at Trenton. So they have lost all : one was Andrew Allen Esq. late a Member of Congress & one of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Committee of Safety.

11. This day M<sup>r</sup> Richmond<sup>1</sup> Member for Saconet, returned from the Assembly at Providence, which stands adjourned to first week in March. The Assembly have appointed *Henry Marchant, Esq.*, a Delegate for the State of Rh. Isl'd. in the Continental Congress. This day a violent Snow Storm, Wind N.E.; Snow 8 inches deep.

12. Reading the Syriac N. Testament; which I do daily, but spent all this Forenoon in it.

13. Mr. Channing returned from the Assembly at Providence, informs, a Flag we sent to Newport last Week for Exch<sup>a</sup> of Prisoners, brought out 4 Newport Gazettes (the only ones printed) viz. 16, 23, 30 Jan. & 6 Feby. In the first is Ld. Howes Proclam<sup>a</sup> and an Address of the Town of Newport to G. Clinton, signed by 444. In that of Jany 30, "A loyal & dutiful Address has been presented by the Society called Quakers." "Similar Addresses to those inserted in our last have been presented by Portsm<sup>o</sup> & Middletown." "Last Tuesday *thirteen Transports* sailed for N York hav<sup>g</sup> those Troops on board which were to return there as soon as the Landing was secured here." "The *Declaration required* in the late Proclam<sup>as</sup> of the Commiss<sup>s</sup> has been *made by most of the Inhabitants* of this Town" (Newport.) "An Invit<sup>a</sup> for Volunteers to serve K. Geo. in a Reg<sup>t</sup> Commanded by Geo. Whightman in a Brigade commanded by Montfort Brown for 3 years or dur<sup>g</sup> the Rebellion." "Col. Mawhood took Gen. Lee." "To be a Ball in Newport every Monday Evening." Extracts.

Return of the Prisoners taken during the campaign of 1776. as per Return taken from the Commissary of the British Forces by Major Wells while a Prisoner in the City of New York.

<sup>1</sup> Perez Richmond, of Little Compton (Indian name, Seconnet).



NEW YORK, Jany. 1, 1777.

| When taken.                                           | Where taken.    | Generals | Colonels | L <sup>t</sup> Colonels | Majors | Captains | Lieutenants | Ensigns | Chaplains | Adjutants | Q. Masters | Surgeons | Commissaries | Engineers | Waggon Masters. | Rank & File | Volunteers |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|--------|----------|-------------|---------|-----------|-----------|------------|----------|--------------|-----------|-----------------|-------------|------------|
| Aug <sup>t</sup> 27 <sup>th</sup>                     | Long Island     | 2        | 3        | 4                       | 2      | 18       | 43          | 11      |           | 1         |            | 3        |              |           |                 | 1006        | 3          |
| Sept <sup>r</sup> 15 <sup>th</sup> & 16 <sup>th</sup> | York Island     |          | 1        | 2                       | 3      | 4        | 7           |         |           |           |            |          |              |           |                 | 354         |            |
| Oct <sup>r</sup> 12 <sup>th</sup>                     | White Plains    |          |          |                         |        | 1        | 2           |         |           |           | 1          |          |              |           |                 | 35          |            |
| Nov <sup>r</sup> 16 <sup>th</sup>                     | Fort Washington |          | 4        | 4                       | 5      | 46       | 107         | 31      | 1         | 2         | 2          | 5        | 2            | 1         | 1               | 2637        |            |
| Nov. 20 <sup>th</sup>                                 | Fort Lee        |          |          |                         |        |          | 1           | 1       |           |           | 1          | 3        |              |           |                 | 99          |            |
| Total                                                 |                 | 2        | 8        | 10                      | 10     | 69       | 160         | 43      | 1         | 3         | 4          | 11       | 2            | 1         | 1               | 4131        | 3          |
| In Canada add                                         |                 |          |          |                         |        |          |             |         |           |           | Officers   |          | 328          |           |                 |             |            |
| At the Cedars . . . . 510.                            |                 |          |          |                         |        |          |             |         |           |           | Privates   |          | 4131         |           |                 |             |            |
|                                                       |                 |          |          |                         |        |          |             |         |           |           |            |          |              |           |                 | 4559        | Total      |

Continu<sup>d</sup> Extracts Newp<sup>t</sup> Gazette of Jany. . . . .

## ADDRESS TO GEN. CLINTON.

Excellency Hen. Clinton Esq. Commander in Chief &c. May it &c.

"We the Freeholders & Inhabitants of the Town of Newport penetrated with a truly grateful Sense of his Majestys paternal Affection & Tenderness for his unhappily deluded American Subjects, exhibited in the Proclam<sup>a</sup> of Nov. last made by the Kings Commissioners for restoring Peace to his Colonies in America humbly presume to address your Excellency, most heartily congratulating upon your arrival among us, sincerely praying that your Endeavors for the Reestablishment of Peace & good Government to this once flourishing but now distressed Town, may be crowned with success. We have long beheld with the deepest Concern & Anxiety the baleful Influence of factions and designing Men through HIS MAJESTY'S AMERICAN COLONIES who by their evil Councils have effected an unnatural Separation from the Parent State, and renounced their Allegiance to the best of Sovereigns, and upon the Ruins of an happy Constitution established a System totally subversive of every Idea of civil & religious Liberty.

The many Instances of Humanity & Benignity displayed by your Excell<sup>y</sup> since your Arrival embolden us to look up and entreat that

your Excellency would be pleased to *interpose in our Behalf*; and so use *your Influence with the Kings Commissioners, that thro' your Intercession, this Town may once more enjoy the Kings most gracious Protection*, together with the *Blessings resulting from a Constitutional Dependence upon the supreme Authority of Great Britain.*

We beg leave to represent to your Excellency that *we bear all Loyal & Dutiful Allegiance to his Majesty King George the third*, his sacred Person, Crown & Dignity: and humbly pray to be declared at his Peace, and *obedient to the SUPREMACY of Great Britain*; being convinced that to be a subject of the British Empire with all its Consequences is to be the freest Member of any civil Society in the known World."

Address of Connanicot to Ld. Piercy, Commander &c after Gen. Clinton's Departure for England. In Newp<sup>t</sup> Gazette of 23 Jany.

"To the R<sup>t</sup> Hon<sup>ble</sup> Hugh Earl Peirce L<sup>t</sup> General & Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces within the Colony of Rhode Island &c. May it please your Excellency,

We the Subscribers Freeholders & other Inhabitants of the Town of Jamest<sup>o</sup> on the Isld of Conanicott beg Leave to *congratulate your Arrival* among us, as it affords the pleasing Prospect of a *speedy Restor<sup>a</sup> of his Majestys Authority & Government* within this part of the Colony, where many of the Inhabitants have long suffered the severest Evils from the wanton Exercise of lawless Power.

We are so sensible of the Blessings resulting from a constant Connexion with the Parent State, that your Excellency may be assured *it is our ardent Wish once more to enjoy the Kings most gracious Protection*, and that we may be declared at his Peace. The *many Instances of Clemency* manifested by your immediate Predecessor Gen. Clinton towards the Inhabitants of Rh. Isld. & Conanicott upon his taking possession of these Islands, *demand our warmest acknowledgments.* And from your Lordships known character for Benevolence & Humanity, we are persuaded that we shall be admitted to the Enjoyment of our *Liberties and Properties* upon the true Principles of the Constitution.

We humbly presume to represent to your Lordship that we bear true & faithful Allegiance to his Majesty King George, his sacred Person, Crown & Dignity; and do severally promise & declare that we will remain in a peaceable Obedience to his Majesty, and will not take up Arms in opposition to his Authority.

"Jan. 13. Signed by all the Inhab. of Jamestown." Phs a doz.

or 20 Families left out of 45 or 50 Families before the war. There were 99 Polls 1768, of which 45 paid only Poll tax; properly 45 families.

14. . . . . In the Amer. prints of Nov. last are Copies of Letters of 7<sup>th</sup> July written by the Rev. Mr. Peters, the infamous Chh. Parson of Hebron in Connecticut, a Parricide Refugee now in London. It strongly shews the Sentiments of the N England Episcopalians in general, who tho' they may not go quite so high, yet are cordially in the ministerial & Parl<sup>y</sup> Interest & wish success to the Kings Army. . . . .

This Mr. Peters<sup>1</sup> was a native of New England and was born in Hebron in Connecticut, where he officiated afterwards to a small episcopal Chh., after receiving Ordination from the Bishop of London. How unnatural his Enmity! . . . . .

16. Ldsdy at Dighton. I preached A M. on Luke xxii. 28. P.M. Ps. lxxviii. 5-7. After divine Service & before pronouncing the Blessing, I read an animating *Address* of the Gen. Court to the *People of Mass. Bay* adapted to the Times, being by order of Assembly sent to every Minister in this State. . . . .

17. It is reported that the Enemy have pulled down my Dwelling house in Newport.

18. Raising Men for the 104 Continental Battalions. . . . .

19. Report that another Action has happened in the Jersies—and that Ld. Howe is dead at New York. This latter I doubt, the former may have some truth in it, as it is said to have come from Gov. Trumbull to Providence,—probably some foraging party has been attacked with Success. This Even<sup>g</sup> I received a Letter dated Jany. 30, at Baltimore from the Hon. William Ellery Esq., a Member for the State of Rh. Isld. in the Continental Congress. The *Congress in whatever Transactions with France are determined to keep the American Commerce free*. The Polity of the State of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> is yet unsettled—some are for one order, some for two, some for proprietary form of Legislature. . . .

Very cold this Morn<sup>g</sup>. Fahr. Therm. at *Eleven* above cypher. 24 the highest of the day, X<sup>o</sup> at night down to 12.

20. This the cold day.<sup>2</sup>

21. Therm. this morn<sup>g</sup> 12—at noon 30. . . .

<sup>1</sup> Yale 1757.

<sup>2</sup> In Dr. Stiles's Almanack for this date is the entry: My Horse died æt. 27 or 26½ years. He was folded Aug't, 1750.



22. I attended a Funeral and preached at the House of Mourning on Eccl. xii, 7. . . . .

Yesterday Afternoon we heard much Canon firing southward. At VI<sup>h</sup> I counted about a dozen heavy Guns in as many minutes. The Firing ceased at Dusk. About 300 Volunteers at Howlands ferry crossed over to Rh. Isld. at Commonfence Point to bring off hay, Barley & Oats—which they accomplished. We had two of the Gallies with each an 18 pounder which kept up firing. The Enemy to the Number of about      came to the Edge of the Heights & discharged their Artillery at our pple, but without much effect being distant from us: [They killed one man in the fort and wounded 3 in the Galley Spitfire by their Artillery.]

23. Ldsday at Dighton. I preached . . . . .

Last week, or rather about 10<sup>th</sup> Feb. Col. Sherburn, in a flag from Bristol to Rh. Isld., presented the Officer there with the two first N<sup>o</sup> of the American Crisis.

The following, with other animating pieces, inserted in the prints, tho' not issued by Public Authority, speaks the Hearts of the American States. I extract from the B<sup>o</sup> Indep<sup>t</sup> Chronicle, Thursdy 13 Feby. Instant.

“To all the Trading Nations of the Earth  
America wisheth Peace and Prosperity.

Know Ye, that the Congress of the United States of America, have declared *them free and independent* of the PHARAOH of Britain—and thro' the Smiles of Heaven on our Arms, we have the animat<sup>s</sup> Prospect of a happy Issue to the *glorious* Contest for FREEDOM. Five hundred Thousand armed brave Americans, stand ready at the Call, to scourge their tyrannic Oppressors. WE, as a younger BROTHER, among the POWERS of the Earth, respectfully salute you, and bid you welcome to come, and TRADE with us:—Regard not the faint Roaring of the old & dying LION of BRITAIN.—His Claws are worn out with Rapine, & his Teeth broken.—He is a harmless Carcass.—Come over to us with CLOATHING, of which we stand in present need, and we will give you in Exchange the valuable Articles of Beef, Lumber, Fish, Rice, Tobacco, Flour &c. When we see your Topsails heave in sight, we'll bid you WELCOME to these shores of  
FREEDOM.”

25. . . . . In the London News—5 Transp<sup>ts</sup> fr. N. York arrived at Corke in Ireld Nov. 14.—“that the Rebels were repulsed from *Kingsbridge* with the loss of *several Thousd* men, & that the Kings Army were on their march for Philad<sup>a</sup> there to take Winter Quarters.” Again, “His Majesty's forces under the Command of G. Clinton hav<sup>e</sup> made good a Landing, & got behind the Provincial

Army, made a signal to Sir William Howe, who immedi<sup>y</sup> marched & attacked them in Front, while he engaged them in rear; that *the Rebels with a surprizing Carnage were totally routed*: and that the Kings Forces lost but *three hundred Men*, without an Officer of Distinction.—The *Loss of the Provincials* amount to Seven Thousand killed & made prisoners.”

Rem<sup>a</sup> 1. This must be or mean their Landing at Frogp<sup>t</sup> & Rodmans P<sup>t</sup> about middle of October. 2. How they magnify the Skirmish into a total Routing the Rebels? 3. What Credit can their future Acco<sup>ts</sup> gain, when they find in Engl<sup>d</sup> that their Army Accounts are so erroneous?—that from the Action of Aug. on L. Isld. to middle Oct. their Captures did not exceed *four thousd* inclusive of say 2500 left in N. York. 4. The Acc<sup>o</sup> so constructed as to the public to carry the Aspect that the *Victory at Frogp<sup>t</sup>* only, or in the Action of G. Clinton & Howe alluded to, was attended with our Loss of 7000. But, 5. Their own Loss at Landing might be truly about 300. Again, 6. If they included those taken in the City 16 Sep. reck<sup>n</sup> them 5000: why had they not with equal Fairness reckoned all Long Island, w<sup>c</sup> the Tories called Thirty Thous<sup>d</sup> Inhabitants, and they might be truly 15 or 18 Thous<sup>d</sup> Souls?

. . . . . “Advice had been rec<sup>d</sup> fr. the C. of Goodhope, that the *Nabob* of Raigoba had broke his *Alliance with the English* & joyned Heyder Ally who was preparing with upw<sup>ds</sup> of 60,000 Men to penetrate into the Carnac.” Lond. prints. I have been looking out for the Loss of the Eastern Wing of the great British Eagle in Bengal, as well as the lopping off of the Western Wing in America! The Brit. Parliam<sup>t</sup> in the height of political Scotch Folly think to hold the Dominion of fifteen Millions of pple in the East Indies, whom L<sup>d</sup> Clive affected to consider as conquered, because he & four hundred English Troops & Artill<sup>y</sup> joyning 20 Thous. Troops of a pretender Claimant of Bengal, claiming under the Mogul, gained some Success, & called the Conquest of some little Territories about the Factories up the River Hughli the Conquest of Bengal at large. L<sup>d</sup> Clive & the E. India Comp<sup>a</sup> quarrelling, whose this Utopian Conquest should be, the Parl<sup>t</sup> took it from both—& stupidly left the commercial Idea with respect to India, for the Idea of Dominion. It is not in the Power of human Polity to diffuse *efficacious Dominion* ninety degrees East & West. It becomes *weak* at 300 miles distance from the seat of Power—it is annihilated at 5 or 600. Witness the Roman, Medopersian, the Alexandrine or Greek, Turkish, the

Persian, & Pontificate as an Eccl. Dominion—The same would appear for those most extensive ones *China & Russia*, were there any Powers in the Proximity of their Frontiers. Five or 600 Miles square of Territory & Twenty Million pple is the utmost Limit of an *Efficacious Polity* among surrounding States. Or if the Territory & Popul<sup>a</sup> exceed this a little while, they will very soon spontaneously break up & resolve themselves, like the Alex. Conquest into separate States & independent Sovereignties.

26. . . . . We have had a Report some Time of an Action at Quibble Town 3 or 4 M. fr. Brunswick, which I doubted as inaccurate. The Boston paper confirms it tho' without particulars. . . .

27. The Snow in Dighton Woods is Two feet and two feet & an half deep. And 30 Miles back in the Country it is said to be 3 feet deep.

28. Severe winter weather.

### March.

1. This forenoon we have a Report of a very great Battle at Brunswick the 16<sup>th</sup> of Feb. It comes hither Via Nantucket where a Vessel arrived last Monday from Philad<sup>a</sup> in short Passage of a few days, & is said to have bro't a Pennsylvania print containing the Account, that the Americans gained the Victory, slew 1000 Kings Troops, took 1800—Gen. Howe among the dead. Uncertain.

[Altogether false! Nantucket Toryism !]

List of Names of some of the Inhabitants left in the Town of Newport when it was taken 8 Dec. 1776.

|                          |                                |                                    |
|--------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| * Cap <sup>t</sup> Read  | W <sup>m</sup> Robinson        | Jon <sup>a</sup> Marsh             |
| Geo Hall                 | — Senter                       | * Gov. Jo <sup>s</sup> Wanton      |
| W <sup>m</sup> Burroughs | Ed. Coddington                 | **** W <sup>m</sup> D <sup>o</sup> |
| *** Capt Keith           | Col. Dayton                    | ** Tho. Cranston                   |
| **** Capt Ferguson       | **** Cap <sup>t</sup> Chaloner | — Ewing                            |
| ***** James Clark Esq.   | — Whiting                      | * Tho <sup>s</sup> Arnold          |
| Rev. Gardner Thurston    | — Bradley                      | * Mr Gibbs, Geo.                   |
| Joseph Stevens           | W <sup>o</sup> Gould           | **** D <sup>r</sup> Hunter         |
| John Stevens             | * W <sup>m</sup> Mumford       | Mrs Bell                           |
| — Layton                 | * Phil Wanton                  | * Sam <sup>l</sup> Whitehorn       |
| Peleg Barker Esq         | W <sup>m</sup> Burk            | — Minshal                          |
| Nat. Coddington          | * Jabez Carpenter              | **** D <sup>r</sup> Halyburton     |
| Dan. Hookey              | Jos. Tillinghast               | *** Sam <sup>l</sup> Goldthwait    |
| Tho. R'dson              | Nathan Hart                    | — Magee                            |
| Eben. R'dson Esq         | Gould Marsh                    | D <sup>r</sup> Tweedy              |
| Capt Vose                | Jacob R'dson                   | Caleb Coggeshal                    |



|                                    |                                    |                                             |
|------------------------------------|------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Peter Wanton                       | Edw <sup>d</sup> Chh.              | Hart                                        |
| **** Th <sup>o</sup> s Freebody    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Read Jun           | D <sup>o</sup>                              |
| ** Sam <sup>l</sup> Freebody       | End of Main Street                 | * Jn <sup>o</sup> Tiers                     |
| Gideon Sisson                      | W <sup>m</sup> Lee                 | W <sup>m</sup> Shaw                         |
| *** Step. Ayrault                  | Jn <sup>o</sup> Sherman            | — Read                                      |
| **** Ed. Thurston                  | Peleg D <sup>o</sup>               | *** Cap <sup>t</sup> Ross                   |
| * Elisha Antony                    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Green              | Jn <sup>o</sup> Hookey                      |
| Peleg Wood                         | * Charles Wickham                  | Sam Pitman                                  |
| Dan <sup>l</sup> Russel            | * Cap <sup>t</sup> Maudsly         | Jn <sup>o</sup> Thurston                    |
| W <sup>m</sup> Burroughs           | * Cap <sup>t</sup> George          | Wife Ab <sup>m</sup> Redw <sup>d</sup> jun. |
| Caleb Carr                         | Deacon Coggeshall                  | Ezra Pope                                   |
| * Jn <sup>o</sup> Miller           | Sam <sup>l</sup> Green             | Mr Perkins                                  |
| ** Jn <sup>o</sup> Freebody        | Zeph. Peas                         | Mr. English, Sext.                          |
| *** Jn <sup>o</sup> Watson         | Mr. Finly                          | W <sup>m</sup> Coddington                   |
| Job Gardner                        | — Gladden                          | Capt Handy, Cha.                            |
| Sol <sup>o</sup> Littlefield       | Th <sup>o</sup> Melvil             | Chh Northward                               |
| * — Webber                         | — Harris                           | * Adam Ferguson                             |
| Eleazar Read                       | * Th <sup>o</sup> Wickham          | Ja <sup>s</sup> Pitman                      |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Langley            | — Downing                          | Cap <sup>t</sup> Buckmaster                 |
| **** Dan <sup>l</sup> Coggeshal    | — Hamet                            | Mr Donnelly                                 |
| Isaac Elizur                       | — D <sup>o</sup>                   | — Fox                                       |
| * Sherman Clarke                   | — Langley                          | ** Aug. Johnston Esq.                       |
| James Taylor                       | — Price                            | B. Wilbor                                   |
| ** Simon Peas                      | Rev <sup>d</sup> Mr Rusmeyer       | ** Th <sup>o</sup> Vernon                   |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Taylor             | * Mr Nicols                        | Elisha Gibbs                                |
| — Cahoon                           | Mr. Crook                          | Lewis Ginedo                                |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Malbone            | Mr. Maxwel                         | *** Mr. Brinley                             |
| * Jon <sup>a</sup> Thurston        | Jn <sup>o</sup> Shaw               | Moses Satias                                |
| **** Th <sup>o</sup> Wickham       | — Ruggles                          | Hyam Levi                                   |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Gardner            | Sam <sup>l</sup> Gibbs             | *** Rich <sup>d</sup> Beal                  |
| Major Fairchild                    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Overing            | *** Nic <sup>o</sup> Lechmer Esq.           |
| * Wife John Redw <sup>d</sup> Jun. | * { Cahoone                        | **** Rev. Geo. Bisset                       |
| * Peter Cook                       | * { Yates                          | ** Capt Jo Durfy                            |
| — Tracy                            | Mr. Stockman                       | Mr. Sisson                                  |
| — Halpin                           | Dan <sup>l</sup> Vaughan           | * Mat. Cuzzens                              |
| Wife D. Servat                     | James Clark                        | — Arnold                                    |
| * Capt. Fra. Malbone               | **** Ja <sup>s</sup> Honeyman Esq. | * Friend Barney                             |
| * Col. B. Wickham                  | B. Spooner                         | Cha. Irish                                  |
| Billings Coggeshall                | ** Sam <sup>l</sup> Bours          | Rob. Langton                                |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Malbon son Evan    | Sam Spooner                        | Sam Lyndon                                  |
| ** Harry Hunter                    | Mr. Hull                           | Jn <sup>o</sup> Layton                      |
| *** Silas Cook                     | Cap <sup>t</sup> Briggs            | Jn <sup>o</sup> Cary                        |
| * Mr. Overing                      | Christ <sup>o</sup> Champlin       | Col. Gardner                                |
| * D <sup>r</sup> Easton            | Jn <sup>o</sup> Dennis             | Sam <sup>l</sup> D <sup>o</sup>             |
| * Jn <sup>o</sup> Cahoon           | Eben <sup>r</sup> Carr             | Moses Levy                                  |
| — Lilibridge                       | Pardon Tillinghast                 | Rev. Mr. Kelly                              |
| — D <sup>o</sup>                   | Isaac Hart                         | Sq <sup>r</sup> Butts                       |
| — Davins                           |                                    |                                             |

— Barker  
Rev. Mr. Tauro J.  
Mr Osborn  
Dan<sup>l</sup> Fellows

## Above Parade

Geo. Gardner  
Rob. Lillibridge  
Paul Coffin  
Rob. Binny  
a Shoemaker  
— Brown  
— Jeffers  
Mr. Jacobs  
— Murphy  
Tim<sup>o</sup> Waterhouse  
David Earl  
Ben. Nicols  
— Barney  
— Vignerou  
— Vose  
— Layton  
— Tew  
Mr Waldron  
Mr All  
Mr Nixon  
Capt. Briggs  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Ingraham  
— Taylor  
— Smith  
W<sup>m</sup> Symmes  
Mr Bailey  
Wm Davis  
\*\*\*\* Isaac Layton  
\* Jn<sup>o</sup> Wanton  
Sq<sup>r</sup> Davis  
Sq<sup>r</sup> Hargill  
Sq<sup>r</sup> Pitman  
\*\* Sq<sup>r</sup> Grelea  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Lawton  
Jos. Turner  
Mr. Holly  
\*\*\*\* Col. Cole  
\*\*\*\* Jn<sup>o</sup> Bull

Nathan D<sup>o</sup>  
\* Cap<sup>t</sup> Drew  
Job Bissel  
\*\*\* Jn<sup>o</sup> Wood  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Tripp  
— Sherman  
\* Mr Scott  
Jos. Yeomans  
— Dunham  
— Dunbar  
— Bently  
— Tanner  
Jon<sup>a</sup> Jeffers  
— Peckham  
Mr. Paul  
Bill Antony

## Point

Cap<sup>t</sup> Sim. Newton  
Gid. Wanton  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Newton  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Rogers  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Mowat  
Ed. Towns<sup>d</sup>  
Jn<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>  
\* R<sup>d</sup> Low  
Mr Townsend, Q. Speaker  
Cap<sup>t</sup> Cole  
— Hull  
Isaac Dayton jun  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Wanton Cap<sup>t</sup>  
W<sup>m</sup> Finch  
— Layton  
Mr Taylor  
Rob. Taylor  
Cap<sup>t</sup> All  
\*\*\*\*\* Tho<sup>s</sup> Robinson Q.  
Th<sup>o</sup> Towns<sup>d</sup>  
D<sup>o</sup>  
\*\* Cap<sup>t</sup> Warren  
Jo Boss  
— Luther  
\*\*\*\* Col. Jo. Wanton

Mr Bowen  
— Nicols  
— Carter  
D<sup>o</sup>  
— Dunham  
James Clark  
\* Jn<sup>o</sup> Ferguson  
Jos. Hamand  
— Stevens  
— Bebee  
— Richmond  
— Cuzzens  
Sam<sup>l</sup> Treby  
\* Geo. Sears  
W. Potter  
— Brown  
— Caswel  
— Grafton  
Jo. Warren  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Simpson  
R<sup>d</sup> D  
Sam<sup>l</sup> D<sup>o</sup>  
— Burden  
R Taylor. Whig. Named  
his Son newborn Horatio  
Gates while in the Hands  
of Enemy.  
— Cole  
\*\*\*\* Sam<sup>l</sup> Dyre Esq.

## Neck &amp;c.

Cap<sup>t</sup> B Church  
Ja<sup>s</sup> Coggeshal  
P. Antony  
— Champlin  
— Taylor  
3 Eastons  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Antony  
— Sheffield  
Geo. Irish  
Jn<sup>o</sup> Banister  
— Brown  
Mr Bliss

\* Tories. More stars, Degrees of Toryism.

444 signed the Address to Gen. Clinton.

## PRINCIPAL &amp; ACTIVE TORIES.

|                                 |                             |                          |
|---------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------------|
| Gov Wanton                      | ⊙ Isaac Layton              | Harry Hunter             |
| ⊙ Col. Jo D <sup>o</sup>        | Old Cap <sup>t</sup> Read   | ⊙ Sam <sup>l</sup> Dyre  |
| ⊙ W <sup>m</sup> D <sup>o</sup> | Col. Cole                   | Th <sup>o</sup> Vernon   |
| ⊙ Simon Peas                    | ⊙ Cap <sup>t</sup> Chaloner | ⊙ Sam <sup>l</sup> Bours |
| ⊙ D <sup>r</sup> Hunter         | Cap <sup>t</sup> Maudsly    | ⊙ Jn <sup>o</sup> Watson |
| ⊙ D <sup>r</sup> Halyburton     | Mr. Brinly                  | ⊙ Stephen Ayrault        |
| ⊙ Rev Mr. Bisset                | ⊙ Th <sup>o</sup> Robinson  | Cap <sup>t</sup> Keith   |
| ⊙ Tho <sup>s</sup> Wickham      | ⊙ Tho. Freebody             | ⊙ Akins Sisson           |
| Geo. Gibbs                      | Edward Thurston             |                          |
| ⊙ James Clarke                  | Geo Sears [Whig]            |                          |

## WHIGS.

|                              |                         |                             |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Timothy Waterhouse           | Deacon Coggeshall       | Cap <sup>t</sup> Vose       |
| Mr. Crook                    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Malbone | Cap <sup>t</sup> Buckmaster |
| Cap <sup>t</sup> Benj Church | Rob <sup>t</sup> Taylor | 'Squire Pitman              |
| Old Mr. Tweedy               | Cap <sup>t</sup> Newton | Cap <sup>t</sup> Tripp      |
| Jacob R'dson                 | Cap <sup>t</sup> Holly  |                             |

Gen. Clinton's Lett. to the Min<sup>y</sup> dated Newport Dec. 9. 1776 the day after taking it says he had "*Two Brigades British, & two Brigades of Hessian Troops.*" "On the 8<sup>th</sup> at daybreak—disembarked (at Weavers Bay)—. The Rebels—retir<sup>g</sup> tow<sup>ds</sup> Bristol Ferry, I detached Major G. Prescott with the Grenad. & Light Inf<sup>y</sup> to interrupt them, sustain<sup>g</sup> him with a body of Troops under the command of L<sup>t</sup> Gen. Earl Percy. — I likewise sent a Battallion to take possession of Newport." Rem. 1. Tho' the number of Brig<sup>a</sup> equal, yet the Hess. double the British Troops. 2. The magnitude of a Battalion—for the Corps w<sup>c</sup> took poss. of Newp<sup>t</sup> Dec. 8. were but 350 [300] circa. 3. Those on the Isld in two Corps. — Prob<sup>y</sup> came into Town separately on Tuesdy & fridy following about 800 Each. Four Brigades phaps. 14 Reg<sup>ts</sup> conveyed in 60 Transports. Confirm<sup>a</sup> that Total 3500, not exceeding.

Mrs. White left N York on Monday 20<sup>th</sup> Jany. says, "that the Hessians are very sickly & discontented; & had *three Rounds* fired on a Number of them in Jersey, by a party of the British Troops for refusing to come to attack the Americans. That a Number of Hessians were bro't into N York under guard. That on Saturday before she left the city she heard a British Officer who rode in Express with the Intelligence of our Troops advancing to Fort *Independence*, declare to another, that they had but *four hundred* Regular Troops in the City & about *five hundred at the Forts* near



Kingsbridge.—That Gen. Lee was bro't to N York on thursday the 16th Instant, where he was under a strong guard in a small mean-looking house at the Bottom of Kingstreet." Beef Eighteen pence per pound. . . . .

2. Ldsday, at Dighton. A.M. I preached on Ps. 119, 133. P.M. Ps. lxxvi, 10.

3. At noon I was told that a Flag from Parliament to Congress was gone to Philad<sup>a</sup>—this News came hither from Mr. Secretary Ward at Providence. Conversing with a very intelligent Soldier of Col. Lippets Reg<sup>t</sup> who was in the Action at Princeton friday 3 Jany. last. — I have for many years known that it was the Design of the Ministry in their Regul<sup>a</sup> of the Colonies, to irritate New Engld. in particular into such Extravagancies, as should be adjudged Treason, & produce a Forisfactura of their Lands, & alter the Tenure of the Lands from fee simple to a holding under Lords &c. The following Letter confirms it, tho' the Design was kept concealed. On this however was founded the large Promises & Assurances to the Hessian & Brit. Troops of sharing the Lands of N Engld. even old well cultivated settlements: with which expectation it is certain they came over.

Extr. Lett. fr. "a General officer in the Army of the United States, dated Morristown Jany. 28. 1777:

"I am well informed by Col. — a Gentleman of Philad<sup>a</sup>, that the Enemy left, at their Evacuation of Elizabeth Town, a *large number of Leases*, wherein every man that took protection within 60 days agreeable to the Proclamation issued the 30<sup>th</sup> of Nov. last by Lord & General Howe, *were to hold their Lands under the King*; & to give his Farmers (by him appointed) the *Refusal of all the Grain & other Produce at certain prices, to be fixed by him*; and every man that *sold his Estate* in any State, to *pay one fourth part of the sale*, for the Benefit of the Crown. Every man that did not submit within 60 days, his Estate to be confiscated, and the Proprietors to hold the Land immediately *under the King during his Pleasure*. A strict search is mak<sup>g</sup> after these Leases, but as the Inform<sup>a</sup> did not come to the General till some days after the Enemy had left the Town, I fear the Tories remain<sup>g</sup> there have destroyed them. This seems to resemble the antient feudal Tenures. From Col. —'s character, I have no doubt of the Truth of the Inform<sup>a</sup>, alth<sup>o</sup> we may not be able to prove it by the Leases, w<sup>c</sup> I am in hopes will still come to Light." Extracted fr. Provid. Gazette

of 15<sup>th</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup>, being the Providence Article. I suppose this Letter was fr. Gen Greene to his brother at Warwick Rh. Isld. [It was from Major General Greene to the Gen. Assembly of Rh. Isld.]

“ State of the Forces under Gen. Howe taken Feb. 4, 1777, bro’t by a Gent. lately from Halifax.

|                                                                   |          |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------|----------|
| British from Halifax . . . . .                                    | 7,500    |
| King’s Guards . . . . .                                           | 1,076    |
| — 1500 Clinton’s from Carolina . . . . .                          | 3,600    |
| + 1000 Highlanders . . . . .                                      | 2,000    |
| Hessians . . . . .                                                | 8,000    |
| Waldeckers from Quebec . . . . .                                  | 450      |
| Recruits from Germany & Irel’d . . . . .                          | 1,000    |
| — 1000 New Levies in America . . . . .                            | 2,000    |
|                                                                   | <hr/>    |
|                                                                   | 25,626   |
| DEDUCTION.                                                        |          |
| Highlanders taken . . . . .                                       | 1,000    |
| — 2000 Unfit for Duty . . . . .                                   | 2,500    |
| Lost in Jersey (600 laid down their Arms) . . . . .               | 2,800    |
| — 2000 Lost in different Engag <sup>ts</sup> & Sickness . . . . . | 3,000    |
| + 2000 In Rh. Isld . . . . .                                      | 5,000    |
| In New York . . . . .                                             | 2,000    |
| On Long Island . . . . .                                          | 800      |
| On Staten Isl’d . . . . .                                         | 300      |
|                                                                   | <hr/>    |
|                                                                   | 17,400   |
| Whole Number . . . . .                                            | 25,626   |
| Deduction . . . . .                                               | 17,400   |
|                                                                   | <hr/>    |
| Whole N <sup>o</sup> in N. Jersey . . . . .                       | 8,226.’’ |

Rem. 1. The first acc<sup>o</sup> right ; deducting 1500 G. Clinton’s which were sent to S<sup>t</sup> Augustine, & 1000 overreckoned in American Levies. Say the Army under G. Howe 24 Thous<sup>d</sup> i. e. so many came to him in the Campaign of 1776—but these were always diminishing. Perhaps at its greatest Strength in the fall or Sept. it never exceeded *Twenty Thousd* inclusive of sick. 2. In the second acc<sup>o</sup> the Unfit for Duty too small & so the Loss in Sickness & Battle for the whole Campaign to Jany. 1777. One *fifth part* of every Army dies by natural Death in one Campaign, without any extraordin<sup>y</sup> sickness in Camp except what is usual, w<sup>c</sup> always exceeds the Mortality of domestic Life. Of 20 Th. therefore bro’t into the Field, Gen. Howe must have diminished 4000 by Sickness only, & probably more reckon<sup>g</sup> to Jan<sup>y</sup>. The killed in Battle is a small thing in all Wars compared with Camp Mortality : say 500, & them-

selves said 300, in E. Chester & Whiteplains. This Article ought to be augmented 2000. Again 3. The Rigor of winter Service will give more than 2500 unfit for Duty—correct this to 3500. Those at Rh. Isld. overreck'd 2000. So there being to be corrected 3500 short & 2000 too much, makes an additional Deduction of only 1500. But as half the Rh. Isld Troops removed to N. York in Jan<sup>y</sup> it may be considered that *eight Thousd* was G. Hows Jersey Army the begin<sup>g</sup> of Feb<sup>y</sup> 1777—this divided into two parts, the main Division of perhaps 5000 stationed at Brunswick & 3000 at Amboy. I would check & correct thus—

## G. HOWES ARMY 1776.

|                                         |        |
|-----------------------------------------|--------|
| Halifax Troops & Guards . .             | 8,500  |
| Clinton's & L <sup>d</sup> Dunmores . . | 2,000  |
| Highlanders . . . . .                   | 3,000  |
| Hessians & Waldeckers . . .             | 8,500  |
| Recruits . . . . .                      | 1,000  |
| American Levies, Tories . .             | 1,000  |
|                                         | <hr/>  |
|                                         | 24,000 |

[N. B. 1,000 of these Highlanders never came to Gen. How—but were taken on Passage & ought be excluded the acc<sup>o</sup>—or the Number of Highlanders raised (which was 3,000 or 2,800 at least) truly given.]

## Deduct. to Feb. 1777.

|                                                     |              |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Highlanders taken . . .                             | 800          |
| Lost in Jersey . . . . .                            | 3,000        |
| Hessians refused to fight &<br>imprisoned . . . . . | 600          |
| Lost in Sickness . . . . .                          | 4,000        |
| D <sup>o</sup> in Battles . . . . .                 | 500          |
| Taken E. & W. Chester . .                           | 500          |
| At Rh. Isld. in Feb. . . .                          | 1,500        |
| At N York & L. Isld. &c. .                          | 3,000        |
| Invalids Feb. 1777 . . . .                          | 3,500        |
|                                                     | <hr/>        |
|                                                     | 16,800 + 600 |
|                                                     | <hr/>        |
|                                                     | 24—          |

## Effective in Jersey 7,200

|                       |        |
|-----------------------|--------|
| Rather . . . . .      | 24,000 |
| Deduct Lost . . . . . | 9,000  |

15,000 Jan'y 1777

|                   |      |
|-------------------|------|
| Invalid . . . . . | 3,5— |
|-------------------|------|

Effective . 11,500 of w<sup>c</sup> 10 Th.  
at N. Y. & Jersey.

The present station of all the British Troops :

44 Reg<sup>ts</sup> in America, viz. 4<sup>th</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> &c. &c.

2 Battalions in Jamaica

1 D<sup>o</sup> Antigua

1 D<sup>o</sup> Grenades

2 Reg<sup>ts</sup> Minorca

4 D<sup>o</sup> Gibraltar

—  
54 abroad.

9 Reg<sup>ts</sup> Irel'd

13 D<sup>o</sup> G. Britain.

—  
22 at home

54

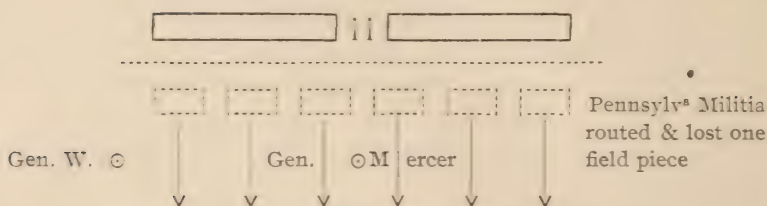
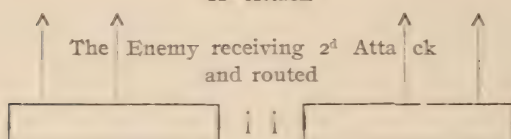
Tot. 76 Reg<sup>ts</sup> in actual service  
January, 1777.



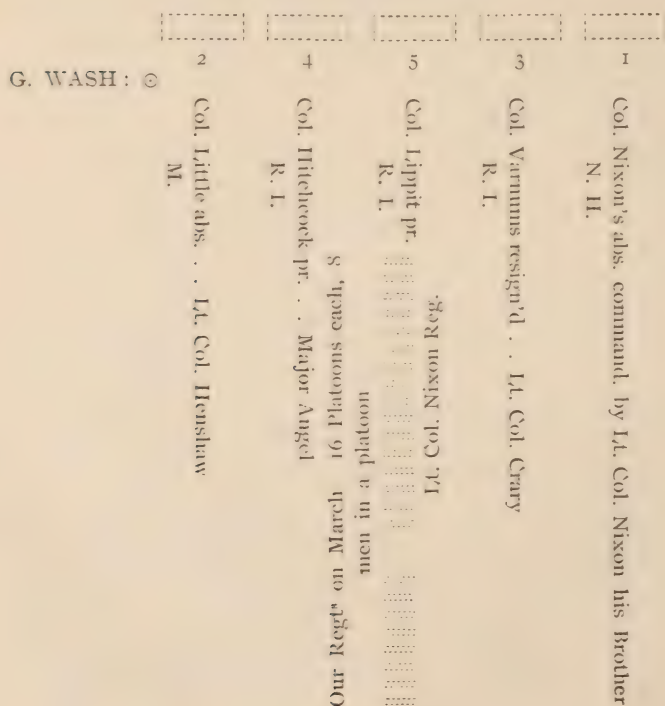
## DIARY OF EZRA STILES

BATTLE OF PRINCETON, JANRY 3, 1777.

The Enemy 6 or 800

2<sup>d</sup> Attackadvanced Line  
of the Enemy

Col. ☉ Hitchcock



Two officers of Col. Lippets Rh. Isld Reg<sup>t</sup> present in the Battle of 3 Jany within 1½ m. of Princeton, gave me the Acc<sup>n</sup> of the Order of Battle. Gen. Mercer behaved bravely, was wounded & taken & afterw<sup>ds</sup> died of his wounds in Philad<sup>a</sup>. After the Rout of the Pensy. Militia, G. Wash. ordered Col. Hitchcock's Brigade to advance. They formed about 200 yds distance fr. the Enemy—began the fire within 100 y<sup>ds</sup>, & in that 100 yds. discharge twice & thrice—rushed on with Impetuosity—the Enemy retreating to their Artill<sup>y</sup> of two field pieces—our men rushed on, took the Artill<sup>y</sup> & routed the Enemy—who tho' in confusion recovered at several Intervals, formed, fired & retreated, till in a general Rout about 200 or more reached the Town & there surrendered; while phps. twice as many escaped for their Lives towards Brunswick. Our five Reg<sup>ts</sup> might be 5 or 600. Col. Lippets of 16 platoons, only 8 in each, had about 128 men. We recovered & took three field pieces.

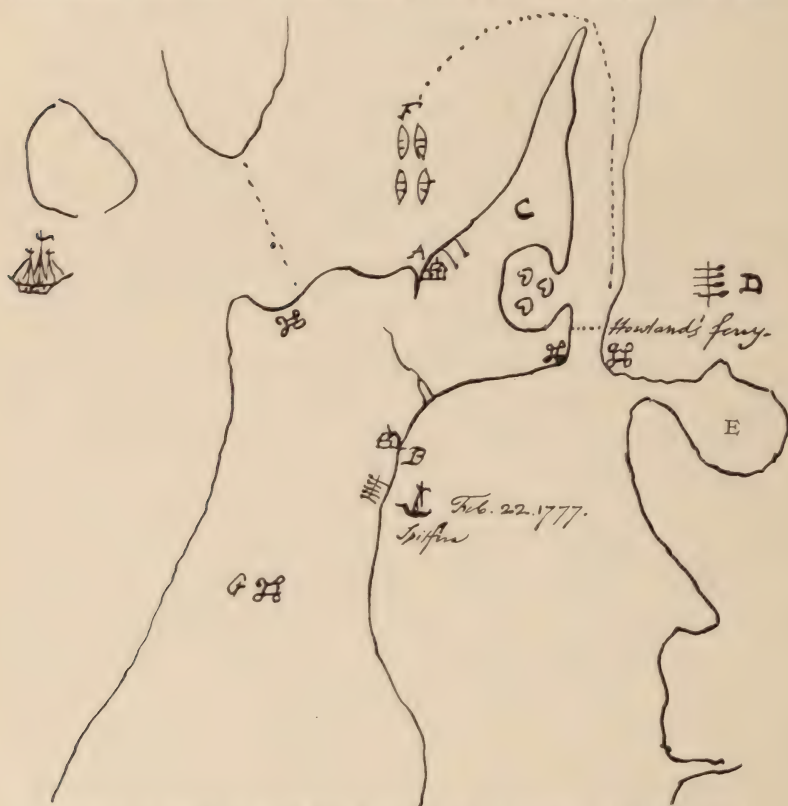
4. It is said that 13 Tories escaped from Freetown to the Enemy at Rh. Isld the night before last.

5. Mr. Chan<sup>s</sup> from Tiverton, of the Army, tells me there are not above a thousd men at Howlds Ferry & down to Saconet—that yesterday morning one deserter came over to us from the Isld. The Enemy may represent in the *London Gazette* the Affair of Saturday 22<sup>d</sup> Feb. as a total defeat of the Rebels in an Attempt to make a Descent on Rhode Isld. It was thus. Either Thursday or Friday our Men went over from Howl'ds ferry round north of Commonfence P<sup>t</sup> & landed & bro't off some Hay. On Saturd<sup>y</sup> they intended the same, sent round 4 or 5 Boats full of Men to land at A, while the Spitfire Galley fired on the Guard house B, where a 5 G. Batt<sup>y</sup> played upon her & wounded several, one of which died. A party & some horse bro't artillery to A & kept off our Boats w<sup>o</sup> returned without Landing. Our Batt<sup>y</sup> at D played over to C & dispersed the Enemy—one of the Guns of D burst & killed a Man. At Even<sup>s</sup> all ceased, the Spitfire much damaged, the other Galley in the Cove E not man'd. None killed in Boats F. The Spitfire got close in shore to avoid the fort G. & fire on the Guard house B. The next night the Enemy fired a Barn of Hay near A; & the family of Mr. Talman had the same night just escaped from the Isld to the Main. . . .

6. Firing of Canon at the southwestward about noon. A fire seen at the N<sup>o</sup> End of Rh. Isld. Two dwelling houses burnt.

7. Six Chiefs of the Oneida Tribe & Six Nations are come to

see the Preparations & Strength of N. Engld. They were at Boston and were shewn the Fortresses, & went on board Capt. Manlys ship, one of the American Men o' War. They desired to see the Canon discharged, & asked Cap<sup>t</sup> Manly to fire one with Ball for Congress, two without Ball for G. Washington, & six without Ball for the Six Nations of Indians. These same Chiefs were at Providence & went



[Sketch of Affair at Howland's Ferry, by Dr. Stiles. See last page.]

on board our Men o' War there, when they were entertained with yesterday's firing.

9. Ldsday at Dighton. A.M. I preached on Ps. xi, 7. P.M. Eph. v, 1, 2. Reading Targum Jerusalem on Exodus. . . . This Even<sup>g</sup> Mr. Chan<sup>s</sup> returned from the Assembly at Providence. Last night the Assembly came to a Resolution to make an Attack on Rh. Isld. where there may be about fifteen hundred Troops of the Enemy. Mr. Chan<sup>s</sup> has brought a printed Resolve of the Court wherein they



order all the Volunteers there can be instantly raised thro' the State of Rh. Isld, and request all the Volunteers that can be instantly raised in the eleven Towns of Massachusetts next adjacent to Rh. Isld, to unite & joyn the continental & other Forces under Gen. Spencer—all to repair to E. Greenw., Prov., Bristol, & Howld's ferry by Wednesday next—to be ready to make one General Descent on Rh. Isld. All to be dismissed in ten days. They offer premiums of Two Thousd Dollars for each General Officer British or Foreign taken—& so in proportion for other Officers.

It is unlucky that this Measure did not come out a few days sooner, as last Saturday a considerable N<sup>o</sup> of 3 Months men were dismissed from Bristol & Howl<sup>ds</sup> ferry—& yesterday & today have been return<sup>g</sup> in great Numbers—probably 5 or 600 or 2 Reg<sup>ts</sup> have passed thro' Dighton on Return home. There may be 500 left at Howld's ferry & Saconet, & 600 at Bristol. I question whether more than 2500 at Providence & down to P<sup>t</sup> Judith. If to these say 3500 there can be added a Collection of 2000 more, they may make a body of five Thous<sup>d</sup>. If these should get on the Isld, they may, by the Blessing of Heaven, succede. Our waiting Eyes are unto thee, o Lord of Hosts, our fathers God !

10. Received a Letter dated Portsm<sup>o</sup> 14<sup>th</sup> Feb. ult. from Mr. Penhallow one of the Committee inviting me to preach to the Congreg<sup>a</sup> late D<sup>r</sup> Langdons. Also I rec'd Letters from M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Lewis & my son at Yale College. . . . .

Col. Church of Rh. Isld. Assembly tells me yesterday arrived in Prov. in abo't ten days from Morrist<sup>o</sup> in Jersey Col. Sprout, inform<sup>g</sup> a foraging party of 2000 from Amboy came out to Woodbridge 3 or 4 Miles—were met by our advanced Guards who fired retreat<sup>s</sup> till supported by an Ambush<sup>t</sup> of 1500 our Men, who checked the party & sent them back to Amboy.

About 20<sup>th</sup> ult. Enemy landed at Norwalk in Connect. in the night & surprized & carried off four Men stationed there for Guard. The Congress are about returning to Philadelphia.

There have been 5000 Troops round Narrag. Bay this Winter. Now are 4000 besides those returned last Week. The State of Rh. Isld. have 2500 Militia on actual Duty, 500 Rh. Isld. Continental Troops & 500 Mass. Militia, 500 Connect. Militia. . . . .

Last Saturday viz. March 8, the Oneida Indians left Providence on their way to Gov. Trumbull & Gen. Wash. They are six in Number & are vulgarly stiled the Chiefs of the Six Nations—but

truely they are all Oneidas and not Sachems or Kings but principal Warriors & accompanied with Rev. Mr. Kirtland. Mr. Channing heard their Speech to the Gen. Assembly at Providence.

The Chief Warrior, who had been in about 50 Battles & may be æt. 60, delivered himself in a speech in Indian near a quarter of an hour long, without Intermission. Which Mr. Kirtland interpreted in as long a Time. The purport of it was—That our Enemies had taken great pains to excite the 6 Nations ag<sup>t</sup> us, assert<sup>d</sup> that we had no Canon but what the King gave us before the War, & these were taken away; that the Canon we pretended to make was good for noth<sup>d</sup>, & our Powder made by us would not carry the Ball beyond the End of the Gun; that we were almost subdued & in a most forlorn & despairing State & should soon be overcome by the British Forces. That the Colonies had Enemies among the Six Nations, but had more friends. That the Indians had sent a Warrior among us last year, but that upon his Return they tho't his Report was more than *one pair of Eyes* could see. Therefore that the *Oneidas* had sent these six Warriors, and that all the Six Nations concurred in sending these Oneida Warriors, to inspect and report the Preparations & Strength of these States. That they had to visit Gen. Wash. & then return by a Time appointed for a General Congress of all the Six Nations & lay before them the Result of their Observations which they hoped would put an End to the Life of Lies. That since they left home & entered these States they had been treated with so much Kindness that their feet had scarcely touched the ground; That they had been shewn the warlike Prepar<sup>n</sup> at Boston, & requested the same at Providence. That they had already seen abundantly more than had ever been told them. Thus the speech.

The Assembly made an Entertainm<sup>t</sup> for them &c to amount of Expence 300 Dollars—among the rest a Gun or Musquet made in N. Engld exceedingly decorated worth 20 Dollars, tho' they gave 40 & presented it to the Chief Warrior. Mr. Kirtland an Oneida Missionary says the *Oneidas have five hundred Men*—& *all the Six Nations Fifteen Hundred fighting Men*. . . . .

12. The Militia mustering in the neighboring Towns. Here at Dighton most of the Men in Town I judged about 250 assembled; about enlisted to go off forthwith to joyn & assist in the proposed Attack of Rhode Island, where it is said the Enemy are 3000—I judge 1500.

MR. PENHALLOWS LETTER REC<sup>d</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> MARCH.PORTSMOUTH, Feb<sup>y</sup> 14, 1777."REV<sup>d</sup> SIR.

By one of our Committee Mr. Jerem. Libbey who went from us to give you an Invitation to come & preach if a Probability of your Settling, and from his Interview with you We are informed that you are not at Liberty to settle, But if We should desire it you will come and Preach three or four Sabbaths, and if that season shall be to mutual Satisfaction you could then engage for a year. Although it is besides our Intention to remain Longer unsettled and have endeavored that we may not, Yet in as short a time a Way may open in Providence for our being settled. Are also informed by him that you cannot come here 'till the beginning of next month. We take the Earliest opportunity to desire you will then come and Preach with us as You have proposed, three or four Sabbaths, and if mutually agreeable to conclude upon further time. Shall esteem the favour of your answer if we may depend upon your coming at that time that We may not be destitute.

With due Respects of the Committee, and in their behalf am Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Your humble servant

Rev<sup>d</sup> Ezra Stiles DD.SAM<sup>L</sup> PENHALLOW." <sup>1</sup>D<sup>r</sup> CHAUNCYS LETTER REC<sup>d</sup> 10 MAR."REV<sup>d</sup> & DEAR SIRBOSTON, Feb<sup>y</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> 1777.Yours of Jany. 28<sup>th</sup> I received yesterday, but by an unknown person, &c. &c.

I would recommend it to you to come to Boston, rather than to any of the interior Towns you mention; for I look upon Boston to be the safest place upon the whole Continent. 'Tis impossible the Enemy shd come here, unless they shd do it by Land; and it would be very extraordinary if they shd do this, or attempt to do it. If you are willing to come to Boston and assist in carrying on the work w<sup>th</sup> me, I will allow you one half of what is weekly contributed, w<sup>ch</sup> is sometimes four pounds, sometimes three, and not less at any time y<sup>n</sup> two pounds four or five shillings. If you should not think this sufficient you will be in the way of a more advantageous employ. M<sup>r</sup> Howes, D<sup>r</sup> Byles's congregations are vacant, and would either of them be glad of your assistance for what time you please; and so would the Congregation at Roxbury. I know not how your family is disposed of. I believe it would be best not to bring them with you. It would be chargeable keeping house here. You might have your children maintained at a much lower rate in the country. And were you to go yourself into the country it would be best not to carry your family, and to set up housekeeping. Let me hear from you the first opportunity. You may be employed at Boston at least till you can get better employment elsewhere. I am with all due Respect, in great haste,

Your Friend and servant

D<sup>r</sup> Ezra Stiles.

CHARLES CHAUNCY."

<sup>1</sup> For Deacon Penhallow, see Brewster's *Rambles about Portsmouth*, i, 315-16.



SIR.

DIGHTON March 13, 1777.

Your Fav<sup>r</sup> of the 14<sup>th</sup> ult. came to hand but the tenth Inst<sup>t</sup>: before w<sup>c</sup> time I imagined you had dropt all Tho'ts of any further Applic<sup>a</sup> to me; and therefore I am not in readiness to be with you so soon as was proposed, besides, that time is already elapsed. However I will endeavor to make you a Visit, and purpose, by the Leave of Providence to be with you the first Lordsday in April. I have also an Invit<sup>a</sup> to Boston; but this will not prevent my paying due Respect to the Invit<sup>a</sup> with which your Congreg<sup>a</sup> has honored me. To succede with dignity so eminent a Minister as President Langdon will surpass my Abilities: and was I disconnected from my dear dispersed Flock, I am sure that I should disappoint your Expectations. To your Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> I sincerely wish Grace Mercy & Peace with every Blessing, especially that of an Ascension Gift from our dear Savior the glorious Head of the Church. With proper Respects to the Gentlemen of the Committee, I am, Sir,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup>

To Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Penhallow  
Portsmouth, New Hampshire.

Very hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

EZRA STILES.

REV<sup>d</sup> SIR.

DIGHTON, March 13, 1777.

Your kind & obliging Fav. of the 18<sup>th</sup> ult. in answer to my Letter of Jany. I rec<sup>d</sup> but the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. After I wrote you, one of the Committee br<sup>o</sup>t me the Invit<sup>a</sup> of the Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> at Portsm<sup>o</sup> late D<sup>r</sup> Langdon's. Their View was an immediate settlement, which I declined, but intimated a Readiness for a temporary Residence, if after a few Sabbaths Trial, it shd be mutually agreeable. Since that I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from that Committee request<sup>s</sup> a Visit & 3 or 4 Sabbaths preaching; to which I have answered that I would endeavor to be with them the first Ldsdy in April.

I cannot be eno<sup>'</sup> thankful for the very great kindness you have shewn me in my exiled State, by inviting my poor Labours with you, & for offering me a Participation with you, in half the Ldsdy Contributions in your Congregation. May the great Head of the Chh. the fountain of all good requite this affectionate Beneficence, & also your kind Offices in opening a way for my Improvement in the other Congregations which you mention. I thank my heavenly Father for these openings in his all-gracious Providence. The Dealings of the Most High tow<sup>ds</sup> me & my Flock have been truly affecting, humbling & instructive. They have led me very seriously to think whether divine Wisdom had not seen fit to eject me from the Vinyard, for my former Imperfections, Unfaithfulness & Unfruitfulness in his service in the Work of the Min<sup>r</sup> for w<sup>c</sup> I never tho't myself *suitably* qualified. I have therefore wished for a more retired and less conspicuous Situation than either Boston or Portsmouth; until it might please Gd. either to dismiss me to another World, or return me to my former flock, if he should be pleased to have any further service for me among them.

How I may be disposed of, is with God, who has been my Guide all my Life long hitherto, & to whose gracious Influence & unerring Wisdom I desire to commit myself the short Remnant of my Days on Earth. I must go to Illyricum but I shall call in at Antioch in my way thither. With submission to

Providence I will endeavor to be with you the last Ldsdy in this Month, when upon discoursing further with you I may be able to determine whether to remove to Portsm<sup>o</sup> or Boston. With assured Expectations of the final Deliverance of America out of its present Troubles, I am, Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Your obliged Friend and

dutiful Son in the Gospel

D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy.

EZRA STILES.

14. This day my Family have been a twelvemonth in Dighton. A gracious Providence has so supplied us that I am not in debt for subsistence the year past—and blessed be God there is some Meal in the Barrel & a little Oyl in the Cruise. The people here give me £60 a year, House & wood. I have two Invitations to minister elsewhere. Thus while it has pleased Gd. to frown upon me in the Dispersion of my Congreg<sup>a</sup> at Newport, yet his Lovingkindness he has not utterly taken from me. Oh! that I may never distrust his Care, nor faint under his Rebukes, but humbly commit myself, my family & Flock to his holy Protection—& feel a Willingness both in prosperity & adversity to be intirely at the Disposal of divine Providence.

Yesterday was stormy, Rain & Thaw—the snow almost gone—wind north & N. E., Th. 45, cleared up at Night. This prevented the new raised Levies from proceeding, except one Transp<sup>t</sup> fr. Taunt<sup>o</sup>; This Morning fine weather, Therm<sup>o</sup> 50. at noon, wind N. high. At Ten A.M. the Dighton Comp<sup>a</sup> proceeded in a Transport for Howlds Ferry—where there were yesterday two Thous<sup>d</sup>. The Comp<sup>a</sup> are about 35 privates each. One in Norton, 3 in Taunton & 2 in Dighton &c are gone thither. One Layton escaped from Newport the night before last & says the Enemy are not above Two Thous<sup>d</sup> Effective there: that Mr. Chaloner & Mr. Cole<sup>l</sup> of Newp<sup>t</sup> are made Colonels in the Enemies Army—that the En'y then had no Notice of the present meditated Attack.

15. Mr. Jones<sup>2</sup> a candidate preach<sup>g</sup> at Taunton visited & lodged with me last night. The night before last one of our Gallies from Providence in the way to Howl<sup>ds</sup> Ferry struck on Commonfence P<sup>t</sup>, the N<sup>o</sup> point of Rh. Isld, about Eleven o'clock at night our pple left her, the En'y having bro't down a Field ps & canonaded her. Then they went off to her in a Boat & set her on fire. Unpardonable Negligence!—It is also said that yesterday one of our fire

<sup>1</sup> For Walter Chaloner and Edward Cole, see above, Aug. 26, 1775.

<sup>2</sup> See above, Sept. 26, 1776.

sloops from Providence went down upon the ship at Hope Isld, but failed & burnt out without doing Execution.

In last Thursdy B<sup>o</sup> paper viz. 13 March, is Gen. Howes Letter to Ld. Germaine dated Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> York Island. 21 Sept. 1776, which arrived in London 2d Nov. Extracts :

"MY LORD, I have the satisfaction to inform y<sup>r</sup> Ldshp. of his Majesty's Troops being in possession of the City of N. York . . . .

On the *sixteenth* in the morn'g. a large party of the Enemy hav<sup>e</sup> passed under cover of the woods, near to the advanced posts of the Army by way of Vanderwaters Height, the *2d & 3d Battalions of Light Infantry*, supported by the *42d Reg't*, pushed forward, & drove them back to their Entrenchm<sup>ts</sup>; from whence the Enemy, observ'g. they were not in force, attacked them with near *Three Thousand* men, which occasioned the March of the *Reserve* with 2 field pieces, a *Battalion* of Hessian Grenadiers, & the Company of Chasseurs, to prevent the Corps engaged from being surrounded; but the *Light Infantry & 42d Reg't* with the Assistance of the *Chasseurs* & Field pieces, *repulsed the Enemy with considerable loss*, & *obliged them to retire within their Works*. (N. B. LIE!) The Enemys Loss is not ascertained; but from the accounts of Deserters it is agreed that they had *not less than three hundred killed & wounded* . . . . We had Eight Officers wounded, most of them very slightly, *fourteen men killed, & about seventy wounded* . . . . "

W. HOWE."

Remark. In the Action of Monday 16<sup>th</sup> the Americans were *victorious*, drove the En'y off the field,—on which one of our Generals next day buried *Seventy Eight* British Troops slain in that Battle. Again, our Force in that Action was 1500 & not to exceed Eighteen hundred yet the Enemy viewed it three thous<sup>d</sup>—so they overestimate as well as we. We in Sept. last estimated the En'y. in that Action 3000 or better: their acc<sup>o</sup> is 2 Batt<sup>a</sup>, 1 Reg<sup>t</sup> say equal 1200, joyned by a *Reserve* w<sup>e</sup> as it had 2 pieces was doubtless equal to 2 Batt. more, but say 1—& 1 Batt. of Grend. & Chasseurs, prob<sup>ly</sup> equal 12 or 1500 more—Tot. *Three Thous<sup>d</sup>*—or say Two Thous<sup>d</sup>. One man counted at Harlem in 2 Barns 110 & 190 Wounded = 300 Wounded of the King's Troops in this action, which implies 100 slain—& yet Gen. Howe would represent to the Min<sup>y</sup>, that *they got the Victory*, & had but 14 killed & 70 wounded:—and that we were damaged 300—instead of 120. G. Howe expresses it cautiously, not saying these were all the killed & wounded.

. . . . This day, 15 March, I received another Letter dated 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from the Committee of the first Chh & Congregation in



Portsmouth, pressing my coming thither. It is reported that yesterday one of our fire-sloops failed in attempting the King's Ship on the west side of Prudence & was burnt. Very heavy canonading has been heard to-day.

16. Ldsdy at Dighton I preached . . . . Soldiers still marching tow<sup>ds</sup> Rh. Isld. Very warm. Fahr. Therm<sup>o</sup> 62 at One o'Clock, Wind S W.

17. I visited Mrs. Ellery who with her Family is in Dighton at the upper part 4 miles off, while her Husband is at the Continental Congress. Col. Church &c returned from How<sup>ds</sup> Ferry—tells me that yesterday P.M. several of the Enemy's ships say a dozen sailed northw<sup>ds</sup> & canonaded Warwick Point; upon which Gen. Varnum discharged several canon at Howlds. Ferry, not so much as a signal as to draw off the Enemys Attention, supposing their Aim in firing upon Warwick the same: that at Even<sup>g</sup> Gen. Varnum saw a Light at Warwick & supposed it to be the Beacon to give Alarm. That the Men of the Galley that struck at Commonfence P<sup>t</sup> were drunk. That Sabb. P.M. the other Galley return<sup>s</sup> from Warren to Howld's., & receiv<sup>s</sup> the Eny's fire from the other side, steered so near Bristol ferry point that she grounded, & the En<sup>v</sup> fired at her in the Even<sup>g</sup> but without Damage. Carelessness! That no Troops were come from Providence, & only about 1000 at Howl<sup>ds</sup> ferry of w<sup>c</sup> 500 new Levies. That Gen. Arnold opposed Gen. Spencer & endeavored to defeat the Enterprize. That Gov. Bradford told Major Richmond he had no prospect of its going on. That 180 Newport Men were at Howl<sup>ds</sup> ferry ready to go on. . . .

18. The Meeting of the Committees of the four N. Engld. States at Providence the last Week in Dec. last, gave Umbrage to the Continental Congress. The Congress spent two or three days in debating whether to approve or disapprove it, as it seemed to be an Embrio of a separate Confederacy of the New Engld States. On the whole they approved it as a *necessary extraordinary* Measure at that Time, when partly by the Removal of the Congress, & partly by the Interruption of Communication between the Northern & Western States being cut off by the Ravage of Gen. Howes Army in the Jersies, it became difficult if not almost impracticable to take Measures from Congress either as to stating the prices of Things, or as to the Quotas to be raised for defending N. Engld from the Irruptions of the Enemy then in possession of Rhode Isld.

This day Cap<sup>t</sup> Childs & Mr. Southwick of Newp<sup>t</sup> Printer<sup>1</sup> visited me. Things go on heavily about the Attack of Rh. Isld., owing much to Obstructions from G. Arnold.

To day I saw a Prisoner who was discharged & left Newp<sup>t</sup> last friday. He says they call themselves 2200 Troops there—that Col. Cole had raised no Men in Town—that Report was spread thro' the shipping that Gen. Washington & 8000 Rebels had come in & submitted to the King :—that the Inhabitants of N Engld. were all freezing to death for want of cloths, had the greatest Dissentions & Confusions among ourselves & were on the point of submitting. They had not the Knowledge of our intended Invasion. on friday last.

19. . . . . Mr. Southwick says the Numeration of Newport last fall was above 5 Thousd. he thinks 5300 souls. Mr. Vernon told me 61<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Thou<sup>nd</sup> ; this Mr. S—— says is Mistake. He supposes about half the Inhab. or more are shut up. There were Nine Thousd & one quarter, AD. 1774.

The 16 Ins<sup>t</sup> Mar. were about 12 or 1500 with G. Varnum at Howl<sup>ds</sup> Ferry—more truly one Thousd viz. 500 new & 500 old Levies.

The Congress is returned to Philadelphia. . . . .

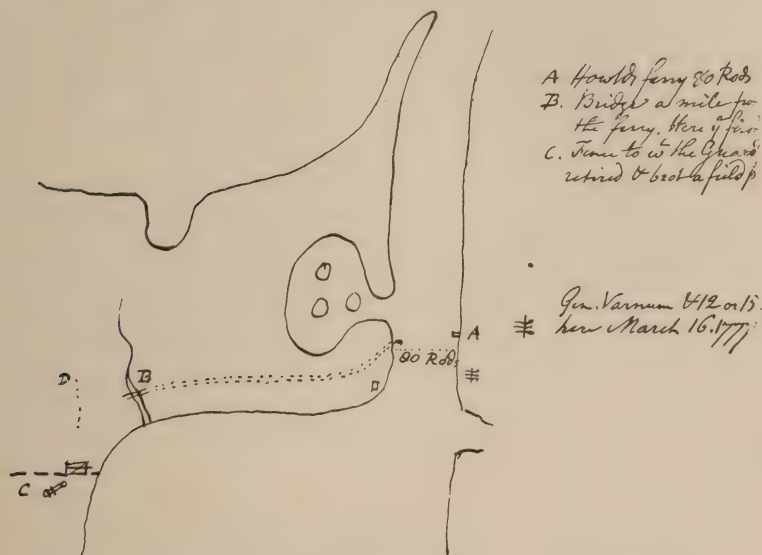
Orders from Gen. Spencer at Providence came to Gen. Varnum at How<sup>ds</sup> Ferry last night to dismiss the volunteers as the Descent on Rh. Isld. is laid aside. Col. Sherburn bro't the orders & said they were grounded upon G. Wash. Letter not to attempt without a moral certainty of Success. This Morn<sup>g</sup> they were dismissed & are all returning home.

Yesterday there were about 1000 or 1200 at Howlds. Ferry—Provisions drawn for 1500. This sudden Levy convened about 500 there, who had the greatest Eagerness for going on the Isld. Yestdy XI AM. the Spirit was ready to burst. Cap<sup>t</sup> —— of Wrentham & 25 Men actually went over Howl<sup>ds</sup> Ferry as far as the Bridge & fired upon the Guards who returned the fire & retreated. Upon this firing Cap<sup>t</sup> Topham & 25 in 3 Boats pushed off & went up to the Bridge. The En<sup>y</sup> sent out a small party tow<sup>ds</sup> C to decoy ours over the Bridge, at which they had directed a Field piece. Our pple did not cross the Bridge but spread—and at length returned. No

<sup>1</sup> Solomon Southwick, proprietor and editor of the *Newport Mercury*. He received the honorary degree of M.A. at Yale in 1780, and died on Dec. 23, 1797, in his 66th year.

Damage—Gen. Varnum blamed this Excursion which was done without his Direction.

The City of Prague is situated on the Muldaw a large & rapid River divid<sup>e</sup> it into 2 parts, joyned by a Stone *Bridge 1700 feet long* (or above 100 Rods) & 35 f. broad, supported by 24 Arches. . . . Quere. May not a Bridge be built at Howlds ferry?



[Sketch of Affair at Howland's Ferry, by Dr. Stiles.]

On Ldsdy P.M. several ships going up tow<sup>ds</sup> Warwick Neck & firing there—at the same Time our Galley com<sup>e</sup> from Warren & grounding at Bristol ferry P<sup>t</sup> side receiv<sup>e</sup> fire from the Enemys fort at Rh. Isld. side—Gen. Varnum in the Ev<sup>e</sup> paraded all the Troops & discharged the Canon at the two forts. This general made firing from all Quarters alarmed all Rh. Isld. & the Ships, which hove out Lights, kindled fires, & kept up signals all over the Isld. all night.

20. I saw Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanford, a Prisoner, who left Newport last Friday, where he was ashore & walked about 8 days [& saw the plundering fleet return 12 or 13<sup>th</sup> Inst.] He tells me Flour is 5 Doll.  $\text{P}^{\text{w}}$  cw<sup>t</sup>—Pork 16 Doll  $\text{P}^{\text{B}}$  Bb.—Fresh meat none in market, & 6<sup>d</sup> sterl.  $\text{P}^{\text{B}}$  lb. when any—Bread 8<sup>d</sup> sterl. loaf which used to be 6 Coppers—Tea 1 Doll.—Chocolate 2 / ster—Melasses 2 /  $\text{P}^{\text{B}}$  gall.—Coffee 2 /—



Wood scarce & 8 Doll.  $\text{P}^d$  cord—the Troops have pulled down about 130 Houses—there are he says 9 Reg<sup>ts</sup>, 6 Hess. 3 Brit. tho' a Hessian Deserter which left Newp<sup>t</sup> the day before says 8 Regiments. Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanf<sup>d</sup> saw the three Brit. Reg<sup>ts</sup> paraded & considers them 300 each; but says they did not fill above Two Thirds the Parade, i. e., did not reach from the Courthouse downw<sup>ds</sup> lower than Lillib.<sup>d</sup> which is against the School house, drawn up four deep: that in exercising & Manœuvres their Column stretched & contracted some times longer & shorter, but by no means filled the Parade. Now the Parade may be forty rods from the Statehouse to the Brick Market. Their Motions hindered Counting, but Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanf<sup>d</sup> was told they were 300 in a Reg<sup>t</sup> & believed it.

He saw Mr. Francis Malbone & Mr. Geo Gibbs. It was the *Opinion of both that the Kings Troops would reach Philad<sup>a</sup>* and endeavor to meet the Canadian Army at Albany this Campaign—and America would finally submit by next fall & be overcome. They neither of them did Business. The Newport Paper puffed on the 5 Tories from Freetown—saying that “five Gentlemen escaping from the Rebels had come over to Rh. Isld.”—but they are obliged to hard Labor—Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanf<sup>d</sup> saw one of them (—Hatheway) a good Liver at Freetown now driving a Horse Cart at the Haymarket, & without a Lodging.

He went to the Bap<sup>t</sup> Meet<sup>g</sup> & heard Elder Thurston pray for the King & Royal Family, just mentioning them but not enlarging, & saying nothing upon the public Affairs. The En<sup>y</sup> have no News from Engld. later than sixteen weeks—they say even the Kings Speech they received from Gen. Wash. & no other way,—that a Packet is missing—M<sup>r</sup> Beal was just from N. York & bro't nothing—: they expect no more foreign Troops, only 8 or 9000 Recruits from G. Brit. & Irel<sup>d</sup>—are very uneasy at learning nothing from home. That Col. Cole & Col. Whitman, two Rh. Islders, cannot get a single Man to enlist—not a man has enlisted at Newp<sup>t</sup> & totally aversed to it—that it is talked they are to be called out as Militia, & many say they will not &c. That the Wanton Fam<sup>y</sup> & a very few others are well pleased & are taken some Notice of, but the most of the Tories & Gentlemen keep close, are seldom seen abroad—that he believes not 40 would take Arms if we shd. land

<sup>1</sup> The abbreviation is for Lillibridge, the name of the proprietor of a well-known tavern on the Parade, called the “Pitt's Head.” See Mason's *Reminiscences of Newport*, 181.

—that many wish we would come, & yet but few expect it. That *the Lies published & circulated are inconceivable*, as, *that Gen. Wash. & 8 or 9000 have surrendered to L<sup>d</sup> Howe*—that one of the freetown Tories was at Boston just before he came in, & reported that the Rebels were obliged to give Two Hundred Dollars Præmium to enlist men for the Continental Army, However this last is nearly true—(for to our great Dishonor Bridgwater offer to augment the Præmium to £50 a man; while in the C<sup>o</sup> of York they enlist so freely as to exceed their Quota for the Continental service.) But local Extravagances are represented the general state. Another Time they say, Wash. has *4 or 5000* scattered here & there over Jersies in parties of 500 Men—while Howe's Army is *seventeen Thousd* strong & in fine spirits.

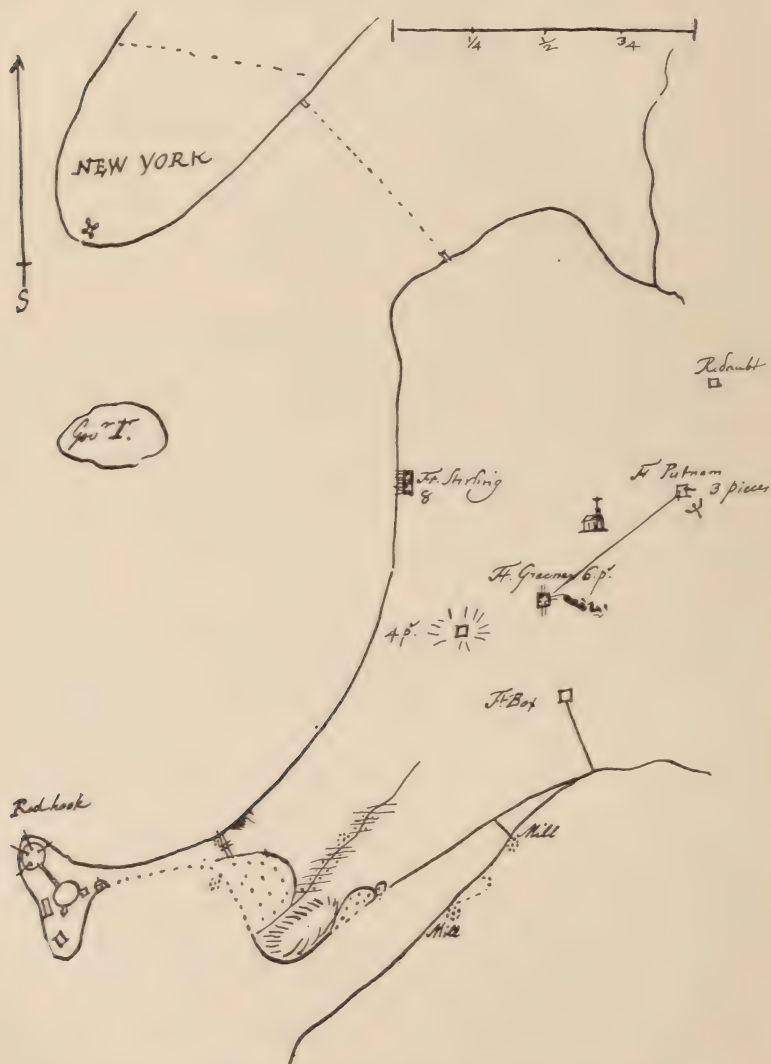
It is very sickly both in the Army & among the Inhab. of Newport. Lordsdy before last five of the Inhab. were buried. The Jews are very officious as Informing against the Inhabitants—who are one & another frequently taken up & put in Goal. . . So that the Inhab. are cautious & fearful of one another. Old Capt. Vose is out of Goal after 3 Weeks Confinement, because he obliged his own servant to make up his Bed before he made up an Officers. He was twice bro't from Goal to beg the Officers Pardon. But to the last he psisted that he had not injured him & refused it. At length L<sup>d</sup> Piercy sent for him out of Goal, said he took no pleasure in keeping an old man in Goal & dismissed him— & that Officer now treats him well. Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanford rec<sup>d</sup> this acc<sup>o</sup> from Capt Vose.

One Armstrong a Labor<sup>g</sup> man, an Inhab. refus<sup>g</sup> to turn out on an Alarm, was ordered 1000 Lashes—received 200 & was remanded to Goal. Every psuasive has been used to get him to enlist, to avoid the cruelty of the remain<sup>g</sup> 800 stripes—but he resolutely refuses every offer, & says he will lie & die there before he will joyn them. Tho' in close Confin<sup>t</sup> he is well supplied. There is a constant Communic<sup>a</sup> and Cap<sup>t</sup> Sanf<sup>t</sup> was told the names of Men (Slocum) from the Main who had been frequently seen on the Isld, & duely bro't the Prints, & sometimes fresh Provisions. This he reported to &c. that they may be apprehended.

21. I collect Inform<sup>a</sup> as I can. From one who was stationed at Red Hook all last Summer, together with a map of the Ground, I learn our Fortifications there were as I here draw them out, on the Peninsula around Brooklyn Church.

Gen. Sullivan is appointed for Crownpoint. A few days since he

was at Providence & confirms the Greatness of the action between Gen. Maxwell & 2000 of the En<sup>r</sup> 25 ult. a few miles from Wood-bridge, with a small Loss on our side. The Enemy were em-



bosomed in an Ambushment—this the occasion of our Killing so many (some say 300 left on the field—however a considerable Number) of them while we lost but few.



22. The Snow gone & the Farmers are plowing. In the B<sup>t</sup> Thursdy paper we have . . . . . "Maryld Journal Feb. 25.

"Many & various Stratagems have been already practised by the insidious & wicked Court of Britain & her artful Agents, to deceive & divide the open, generous, unsuspect<sup>d</sup> Americans. *One more Attempt is made.* A Report is industriously circulated, that the Commissioners of Britain, Ld & Gen Howe, thro' Gen. Lee, have offered to Congress honorable Terms of Negotiation. . . . ."

This is an artful Stratagem! as was that last year thro' Gen. Sullivan. That was avoided—may this also. It is to be hoped the Congress will be firm. No proposals for Interviews & Negotiations shd be attended to, without this preliminary, An Act of Parl<sup>t</sup> renouncing Dominion and acknowledging the Independency & Sovereignty of these States, at the same time withdrawing their Armies—then propositions of *Alliance* may be attended to. The Commissioners have not, cannot have Powers adequate to this End without Parl<sup>t</sup> & this would be public—therefore it is only Delusion. It is unhappy that Gen. Lee should be in such Circumstances as to become subservient to the Views of the Enemy. His Name & being a vehicle of the Proposal, will give a great handle to the Tories, Timid & Latent Friends of Government. . . . .

23. Ldsdy, at Dighton, I preached . . . . . Baptized Henry the son of Henry Boakes and Miriam his Wife, the Father first owning the Covenant. He was born in Leeds in Old England, came to America æt. 14 & was in Gen. Johnsons Battle 1755, and is a School-master in Dighton. His parents were Dissenters, tho' he was baptized in Church. In youth he was taught the Assembly's Catechism both the lesser and the greater which he learned with the Proofs. His Life has been a Mixture; I hope God has given him Repent<sup>a</sup> of all his Sins. He may be æt. 40, and at length remembers the Duties taught him in his early religious Education. I notified the Congregation that I purposed a Journey this Week, to be absent about a Month. . . . .

24. It is reported that the French Ship arrived at Piscataqua advises that a French Fleet of 30 sail is coming hither & on our coast convoyed by French Men o'War. . . . .

25. Preparing for my Journey. . . . . This afternoon Col. Sylvester Richmond of Dighton signed & executed a Deed to Feoffees in Trust of 70 Acres of Land in Dighton (worth a Thousd Dollars) to & for the use of the Congregation to which I have been preach-

ing in Dighton. Mr. Jos. Atwood & myself were Witnesses of the signing seal<sup>s</sup> & Delivery to s<sup>e</sup> use. No Justice being present it was not acknowledged. I make this entry in case of Mortality.

26. I am setting out on my Journey.

Set out from Dighton & lodged at Taunton.

27. This Morning broke out with what I suspected afterw<sup>ds</sup> to be Variolæ. Visited Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Dunbar of Stoughton æt. 70. Massachusetts Levies equal to Eleven full Battalions of the fifteen.

28. Dined with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Haven of Dedham, & spent the Aft. with Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Gordon of Roxb<sup>d</sup> in Comp<sup>s</sup> with Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neil of one of the Continental ships at Boston. Lodged with Mr. Gordon.

30. Ldsdy. I preached in Boston for D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy of the Old or first Chh. A.M. Acts xv, 18. P.M. Rom. v, 1, 2.

31. At the Boston Ministers Meeting at D<sup>r</sup> Pembertons when were present D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy, D<sup>r</sup> Cooper, D<sup>r</sup> Eliot, D<sup>r</sup> Pemberton, D<sup>r</sup> Mather, Mr. Lathrop & Mr. Gordon of Roxb<sup>d</sup>.

## April.

1. Set forward in the Stage Coach for Piscataqua. Lodged at Newbury & arrived at Portsm<sup>h</sup> Wedn<sup>d</sup> afternoon; visited Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Haven in the Even<sup>g</sup>. Sat<sup>d</sup> dined with Gen. Moulton, who left G. Wash. at Morrist<sup>h</sup> 24 March. He confirms the Land<sup>s</sup> of the En<sup>y</sup> & destruction of the Stores at Peekskill. G. Wash. has with him only six or Eight Thous<sup>d</sup> Continental Levies. No Russians expected.

6. Ldsdy at Portsm<sup>h</sup>. I preached in the Chh. late Presid<sup>t</sup> Langdons. A.M. Eph. ii, 8-10. P.M. Rom. vii, 9 and baptized two children viz. Lucy Daughter of Samuel Beck & Hannah his Wife and Agnes D. of Tobias Warner & his Wife. Read a Proclam<sup>s</sup> for a Fast the 24<sup>th</sup> Instant. Notified the Lords Supper next Ldsdy & a sacramental Lecture next Thursday Evng.

8. G. Sullivan on a visit to his Family in N. Hampshire says they well know G. Howes whole Force at Rh. Isld. N. Y. & Jersey not *Thirteen Thousand*.

9. I Visited Rev. Mr. Stevens of Kittery, Lady Pepperrell<sup>l</sup> &c.

10. Returned to Portsm<sup>h</sup> & preached an Even. Sacram<sup>t</sup> Lecture on Heb. i, 3. Report that the Stores are destroyed at Peekskill Ins<sup>l</sup>.

<sup>l</sup> Mary (Hirst), widow of Sir William Pepperrell, the distinguished captor of Louisburg, whom she married in 1723. She died in Kittery in 1789.

The En<sup>y</sup> landed phps 1000 Men ; Gen. McDougal had not so many & retreated.

11. Dined at Judge Parkers' æt. 75. Viewed his Library of about seven hundred volumns. A great Reader.

12. The Cabot Amer. Sloop of War lately chased by the Milford a Brit. Frigate of 28 Guns—run ashore at Jeboge in Nova Scotia 50 Leagues fr. Halifax & lost.

13. Ldsdy I preached at Portsm<sup>o</sup> A.M. Cant. ii, 2, 3, 4, and administered the Lds Supper there, present phps 50 or 60 Communicants ; one of which was a Lady of the Chh. of England, Mrs. Warner Wife of the Hon. Warner<sup>2</sup> Esq. one of the Council. She never communicated before in a Congregational Chh. P.M. 1 Jn<sup>o</sup> ii, 5, and baptized two children viz. Jacob Tilton son of Benj<sup>a</sup> Slade & his Wife, and Eliz<sup>a</sup> Daugh. of Jn<sup>o</sup> Sherburn & his Wife.

17. Visited Rev. Mr. Lyman<sup>3</sup> at York. . . . .

18. Dined in Company with Col. Langdon formerly of the Continental Congress. He says Mr. Jeffries [Jefferson] of Virginia drafted the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independency by the Cont. Congress :—and Mr. Dickinson, Author of the Farmer's Letters, drafted the last Petition of Congress to the King. . . . .

19. Detection of Money Makers this week . . . . .

20. Ldsdy at Portsmouth I preached, A.M. Jno. iii, 7. P.M. Rev. xii, 11. Reading Abp. Leighton on Peter.

21. . . . . This day came to a Wharf in Portsm<sup>o</sup> a 2<sup>d</sup> French Ship with 52 p<sup>s</sup> Canon Brass 4 pounders, 6000 Suits of Cloths & 1000 Tents & 5 or Six Thous<sup>d</sup> Stands of Arms. This is the fourth Ship from France with Arms actually arrived here this spring.

|                                |             |                        |
|--------------------------------|-------------|------------------------|
| 1 at Virginia . .              | 12,000 Arms |                        |
| 1 Delaware Philad <sup>a</sup> | 10,—        | [Maryld May — 9,000    |
| 1 Portsm <sup>o</sup> . . .    | 12 —        | Mass. June 11—10,000.] |
| 1 D <sup>o</sup> . . . .       | 6 —         |                        |
|                                | —           |                        |
|                                | 40,000      |                        |

<sup>1</sup> William Parker, Judge of the Superior Court, died 1781. One of his sons was the Rev. Dr. Samuel Parker, Bishop of the Eastern Diocese. See Brewster's *Rambles about Portsmouth*, i, 118–20.

<sup>2</sup> Hon. Jonathan Warner married in 1754 Mary, daughter of Captain Archibald Macpheadris, of Portsmouth. See Brewster's *Rambles*, i, 138–39.

<sup>3</sup> Isaac Lyman (Y. C. 1747), pastor of the 1st Church in York, Maine, from 1749 to 1810.



Wonderfully providential! that we should receive Fourty Thous<sup>d</sup> Stands of Arms this Spring.

22. Yesterday the Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> in Portsm<sup>o</sup> late the pastoral Charge of Dr. Langdon, gave me an unanimous Call to remove & settle one year with them in the Work of the Ministry; & sent the Committee to wait on me with their Vote and converse with me on Terms. And this day at an adjourned Meet<sup>s</sup> they unanimously voted me a House, Fire Wood, Expences of Removal, & £110 L. M. a year;—or £200 and I take the whole upon myself. Wonderfully providential! Acceptableness of my poor Labors! Opening for some little Usefulness! & liberal Provision for my family! in this Time of public calamity. It demands my Gratitude to Heaven! Let me never distrust a gracious Providence. It is a Seaport & exposed to the En<sup>y</sup>: but Dangers & Troubles & Streights await us every where. In Gods holy Protection only is Security. I have taken the matter into a little time of Consideration, & desire to carry it to Jesus for his Light and Blessing. For tho' the case appears comfortably clear at first View, yet our best Prospects are so easily disadjusted and broken up & disappointed, that I desire first to ask Counsel of Heaven. If God has a Work for me anywhere, he will manifest it. If Gds Glory, his Presence & Blessing is not to go with me, I would not be carried up hence by the most flattering Prospects. In short I have found by sufficient Experience that without Gods Guidance & Blessing we are Nothing—& with it we are smiled upon & happy. I desire to refer this & all my Concerns to God.

This day two Brit. Men o' War anchored off against the Mouth of Piscataqua River, & took two Prizes here, only a Day after the Arrival of the French ship. Wonderfully providential!

In detecting the Money Makers it is found to be a ministerial plot, & that a part of it was by the same persons to spread the Small-pox thro' the Land. We are so surrounded & encountered with all kinds of Enemies & Stratagems, & so many Species of Danger, Ruin & Desolation, as necessitates us to see that God alone can save us amidst all our dangers. May I be bro't to commit myself, my Chh., my fam<sup>y</sup> & all my Concerns to Gd, and contentedly leave all Events to his overrul<sup>g</sup> Disposal. However it may please him to deal with particular Chhs & Families, which may be involved in Ruin in this momentous conflict; yet G<sup>d</sup> be thanked I have an entire Confidence & Trust that the great American Cause,

both as to LIBERTY & PROTESTANTISM, will be carried thro' with eventual Success, Victory & Triumph.

This Afternoon I rode to Newington & visited the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Adams<sup>1</sup> æt. 89; born at Brantree Jan. 4 1688/9, ordained 1716, his Chh. gathered the same year. Sixty sail of the En<sup>y</sup> anchored Apr. 11 at Fishers Isld. bound from Newport for N. York.

23. This Afternoon I gave my Answer of Acceptance to the Committee. The Price of Provisions is so high & unsettled that I can't judge of Expences. But with Gods Blessing I hope the £110 L. M. & Wood may be a competent Support: especially as the Congreg<sup>a</sup> have Kindly voted that if the £200. be not eno' for &c. they will pay the Expences of Removal besides. Generous! kind! Certainly Gd hath put it into their Hearts thus to provide for an Exile! Deo Opt. Max. Grates!

24. General Fast through the States of Connecticut and N. Hampshire. I preached at Portsmouth A.M. Isai. lv, 7. P.M. Ezek. xx, 43, 44: a large Assembly.

25. Received 70 Dollars or £21 of the Committee towards the Removal of my Family. This afternoon set out in the Stage for Boston (five Dollars for a seat in the Coach) in Company with 14 French Officers just from Paris to enter our Army, & going to Gen. Washington.<sup>2</sup> Lodged at Hampton at Rev. Mr. Thayers.

26. Dined at Newbury. Repairing the Coach. Got no farther than Ipswich, where I put up for the Sabbath, with Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr Frisbie<sup>3</sup> of the first Chh.

27. Ldsdy. I preached at Ipswich . . . ,

28. Rode via Cambridge to Boston. Visited President Langdon.

29. Visited Uncle Eldad Taylor in Boston<sup>4</sup> very sick. Paid four Dollars Passage & set off this Aft. in the Providence Stage. Lodged at Rev. Mr. Paysons<sup>5</sup> of Walpole. The Enemy have

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Adams (Harvard Coll. 1710), ordained at Newington, the town next northwest of Portsmouth, on Nov. 16, 1715, died in May, 1783, in his 95th year.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Stiles preserves in his Itinerary the names of these officers, written by one of the party, viz.: Colonels Conway, De Bord, De Coudray, and Calppe; Captains Des Epiniers, Tousard, Taraigne, Pierre, Parison, and Mullens; Lieutenants Rivaud, Matigni, Parisi, Leblanc, and Cauxette; also, Surgeon-Major Noel.

<sup>3</sup> Levi Frisbie (Dartmouth Coll. 1771). See above, March 3, 1776.

<sup>4</sup> A member of the Governor's Council. He died on May 21. See also this Diary, April 13, 1773.

<sup>5</sup> Phillips Payson (Harvard Coll. 1724).

landed at Fairfield, as I am told in Boston this day, by a Norwich Man.

30. Constant Chh was aboard the Enemys fleet at Tak<sup>e</sup> Newp<sup>t</sup>, says 800 Soldiers, Women, besides Children came on board the Transports to Newp<sup>t</sup> Dec. 7, last. Only six Officers and their Servants on board his Transp<sup>t</sup>. He was a Mate. At Providence.

Last friday Eveng. twenty Sail landed Troops six Miles West of Fairfield & proceeded for our Stores at Danbury. Mr. Pelatiah Webster<sup>1</sup> of Philad<sup>a</sup>, captivated with 600 Bb. of flour, left Newp<sup>t</sup> this day in a flag to Providence: informs a Ship lately arrived there w<sup>c</sup> left Engl<sup>d</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> March—w<sup>c</sup> s<sup>d</sup> that G. Clinton was to sail fr. Engld. 12 March with nine Reg<sup>ts</sup> which they called Nine Thous<sup>d</sup> men for Rh. Isld. . . . .

Mr. Duchè was Chaplain till [Oct.] the Removal of Congress in Dec. 1776 to Baltimore. Not afterwards. Since their Return they have no Chaplain. [This Mr. Duchè afterwards deserted his country & joyned Gen Howe at Philad<sup>a</sup>—and the begin<sup>g</sup> of Oct 1777, a little before Burgoyne & the Northern Army fell into our hands, he wrote a long Letter and sent it out to G. Wash. to persuade him to betray his Country's Cause. But soon after the Disaster of Burgoyne he embarked at Philad<sup>a</sup> for G. Britain.] . . . .

May.

2. Returned to Dighton.

3. Confirm<sup>n</sup> of the Destruction of our Stores at Danbury by a Detachm<sup>t</sup> of the Enemy which landed from twenty four Transports 6 m. west of Fairfield the night of 27<sup>th</sup> ult. and Saturd<sup>y</sup> Morn<sup>g</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> marched for Danb<sup>y</sup> and after burning the Town & Stores returned.

4. Ldsdy. I preached at Dighton A.M. Ephes. ii, 22. P.M. 1 Jn<sup>n</sup> ii, 5.

5. Writing Letters to President Langdon &c. in order to introduce my Son Ezra into the Junior Class in Harvard College, his standing in Yale College, which is broken up by the Calamities of the Times. Presid<sup>t</sup> Dagget of Y. Coll resigned his temporary Presidency 25 March last, & College dismissed 27<sup>th</sup>—the Library removed to Farmington.

6. When D<sup>r</sup> Franklin was in London he educated a Boy, a son of a Milliner with whom he lived, & left him at School. The

<sup>1</sup> A College classmate of the author.



Doctor carried him with him to view the Army around Boston Aug—1775—sent him thro' the Colonies to Carolina. Having finished this Tour & being just about to embark at Philad<sup>a</sup> to return to Europe, D<sup>r</sup> Franklin took him into private & told him, that whereas his Son Gov. Franklin had become an Enemy to his Country and forfeited his Fathers favor, he had disinherited him, and that he now made this young Gentleman Heir to his Estate. The Doctor then introduced him as *his Son* to the Members of Congress. After this he sent him back to Europe to finish his Education. He was then about æt. 17.—D<sup>r</sup> Franklin's Estate is *Sixteen Thous<sup>d</sup> pounds sterl<sup>e</sup>*. The Doctor by his Wife Deborah had no children; but by his first Concubine he had that are still living a Son the Governor & a Daughter married to Mr. Bache, whom the Doctor procured to be Post Master General of America. He saw that his son William the Governor was a Spendthrift having outlived his Income—and that an Estate put into his hands would be thrown away. There was a chance of its enduring longer in the hands of his son, who besides is said to have an Aspect & Countenance indicating his inheriting some of his Fathers singular Mental Powers. Perhaps this Act of the Doctors is not less an Act of Wisdom & Beneficence, than Severity & strict Justice, and may honor his Discernment & Fortitude to Posterity. [All this is mistaken narrative. The D<sup>r</sup> took the son of Gov<sup>r</sup> Franklin<sup>1</sup> with him to France &c.]

7. Report still prevails of Arrival of Fleet and Ten Thous<sup>d</sup> Troops at Halifax.

8. This day my son Ezra set out from Dighton for Cambridge, to enter Junior Sophister at Harvard College, if he may approve himself qualified.

Yesterday Rh. Isld. Gen<sup>l</sup> Election held at Providence, Mr. Cooke chosen Governor, & Mr. Bradford Dep. Governor . . . .

10. Report that Gen Wooster<sup>2</sup> died of the Wounds he received in the Battle of Danbury.

11. Ldsdy. at Dighton I preached A.M. on Mat. xvi, 24. P.M. Cant. ii, 2, 3, 4. Lead Thos. Tamplin & Ruth his wife to make a public Confession . . . He was a Communicant in the Chh. of England. She owned the Cov't. and I baptized their Infant Ruth. . . .

<sup>1</sup> William Temple Franklin, born of an unknown mother in England in 1760 or 1761, was educated from his infancy by his grandfather.

<sup>2</sup> David Wooster (Y. C. 1738), wounded on April 27, died on May 2.

12. I went to Providence, where this day where Rev. Mr. Martin of Ireld.<sup>1</sup> was taken up by Gen. Spencer<sup>2</sup> for a Spy & as hav<sup>g</sup> a Commission from G. Howe.

13. At Providence waited on Gen. Spencer who told me Mr. Martin had been over to the Enemy in the Jerseys & returned. One Dennison of Stonington informed the General that Mr. Martin had a Majors Commission & offered him a Captaincy. The General sent him off to Windham. A Number of Tories about Noble-town<sup>3</sup> took Arms, a Battle ensued between them and the Whigs who killed 3: one of the Tories had enlisting Orders which he received of Col. Elijah W<sup>ms</sup> of Stockbridge, who was Apprehended and put in Irons with others in the Plot both at Stockbridge & Albany. This Aft. 15 [11] Ships came into Newport. Rode to Rev. Mr. Rogersons.<sup>4</sup>

14 . . . . Ezra returned from Cambridge.<sup>5</sup>

16. Seven of the Kings Stores lately burned at St. Jno's, Canada. This may balance Danbury.

17. This Day *Hart* executed at Providence for Treason by Judg<sup>t</sup> of a Court Martial. He was connected with the Slocums about Updikes Newtown in giving Intelligence to the En<sup>y</sup>, in putting off forged Money, Enlisting &c. He avowed it & openly approved of the Kings Cause & wished Success to it. He was apprehended Tuesdy or Wed<sup>y</sup> last, a Court Martial found him guilty on Thursdy, two Ministers attended him on Friday, & this day the Gallows was made & he was executed, as one told me who saw the Execution. This is *speedy Justice*. He was born at Little Compton.

An English Deserter from Newport Thursdy Night, says the Eleven Ships which came there last Tuesday were Store ships from N. York—& were on their Return to carry away one or two Regiments: That the En<sup>y</sup> never had Four Thousd at Rh. Isld.—which is perfectly agreeable to my Idea. Prizes continue to come in—this week a very rich one. Invoice £30,000 sterl<sup>t</sup>. at Bedford.

Friday 2<sup>nd</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> Gen. Wooster died at Danbury of the Wounds he received in the Action of 26<sup>th</sup> ult. æt. 68 circa.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, April 19, 1775.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Spencer. See below, Oct. 30, 1777.

<sup>3</sup> Part of Hillsdale, Columbia County, N. Y., just west of Egremont, Berkshire County, Mass.

<sup>4</sup> Rehoboth, the town next west of Dighton, and east of Providence.

<sup>5</sup> In Dr. Stiles's Almanac under this date is the entry, Hired £30 of Mrs. Burt for finishing Ezra's Education. Cf. this Diary, Oct. 8, 1775.

Gen. Woedtke<sup>1</sup> in our Service died at Ticonderoga last Winter. He was a foreign Officer. The Tories also die; as died Brig. Brattle<sup>2</sup> at Halifax last year. . . .

This day in Dighton I baptized privately or rather at a private House the rest of the Children of Thomas & Ruth Tamplin, viz. William, Thomas & Edward.

18. Ldsdy at Dighton. I preached on Ps. xxxix, 5. P.M. Jude v. 20, 21, a farewell Sermon, after which an Anthem was sung in the Congregation.

19. . . . In two years we have got to the third medical Director General of the Army. D<sup>r</sup> Church the first proved a Traitor—D<sup>r</sup> Morgan the second is dismissed;<sup>3</sup>—and the Congress have lately appointed a third viz. D<sup>r</sup> William Shippen jun *Director Gen.* of all the Milit<sup>y</sup> Hospitals erected & to be erected for the Armies of the United States. They have arranged the whole under—the *Middle*, the *Eastern* and the *Northern* Departments. To the Eastern & Northern are assigned each a *Deputy Director General*. And to each of them *Physician & Surgeon Generals* both the Hospitals & the Army. My Friend D<sup>r</sup> John Bartlett of Rh. Isld. is appointed *Physician & Surgeon General* of the Army in the Northern or Ticonderoga Department.

20-21. Preparing for Removal.<sup>4</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Baron de Woedtke, a Prussian officer, came over early in 1776, and died near Lake George on July 31 of the same year.

<sup>2</sup> Gen. William Brattle (Harvard 1722).

<sup>3</sup> Dr. John Morgan, of Philadelphia, was dismissed in January, 1777, without reason, but on subsequent investigation was honorably acquitted of all charges.

<sup>4</sup> Dr. Stiles's account book for May has the following list of things sold:

|                                                    |         |
|----------------------------------------------------|---------|
| To Mr. Fisher old saddle                           | 3 Doll. |
| 114½lb. Pork @ 7 <sup>d</sup>                      | 3: 6, 5 |
| To Mrs. Channing ½ Bush. salt                      |         |
| To Mr. Gardner Fat 46 <sup>lb</sup>                | 1, 3, 0 |
| To Mrs. Nanny Channing 10 <sup>lb</sup> Tallow     | 5, —    |
| To Mr. Holloway, Pork                              | 10 —    |
| 4 <sup>lb</sup> Grease Capt. Wolf @ 6 <sup>d</sup> | 0, 2, 0 |
| To Major Rd. my Cow, 30 Doll.                      |         |
| Mrs. Channing Hogs Fat                             |         |
| Ashes sent by Mrs. Nanny                           | 6, 3    |

Also, Acc<sup>o</sup> Things carried to Portsm<sup>o</sup> in great Trunk:

6 pr. sheets, 6 pr. Pillow Cases, my Calico Gown, 1 D<sup>o</sup> Betsey's, 1 Do. Ruth, 2 pr. Silk Stockings, 2 MSS. Eccl. Hist. &c., Watts Lyrics, Doddridge, v. 3, Court Register, ½ Doz. China Plates, 4 Do., 1 Canister Tea.

Cost of Remov<sup>s</sup> £28. L. M.



22. I left Dighton with my family, having resided there above fourteen months. We set off in 3 Carriages of which two Chaises, for Boston, with some Furniture.

23. Arrived at Boston.

25. Ldsdy. I preached for D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy, Cant. ii, 2, 3, 4.

28. General Election at Boston; But the Stage Coach could not stay. So we set off for Portsm<sup>n</sup> in the Stage, viz. nine Persons. . . .

|                 |                              |       |    |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------|----|
| Myself          | <i>Ezra Stiles</i> æt.       | . . . | 50 |
| All my Children | Eliza. Stiles                | . . . | 20 |
|                 | Ezra Stiles jun.             | . . . | 19 |
|                 | Kezia T. Stiles              | . . . | 17 |
|                 | Emilia Stiles                | . . . | 16 |
|                 | Isaac Stiles                 | . . . | 14 |
|                 | Ruth Stiles                  | . . . | 12 |
|                 | Mary Stiles                  | . . . | 10 |
|                 | Newport my Serv <sup>t</sup> | . . . | 29 |

29. We lodged at Ipswitch last Night, & this day we all arrived safe in the Coach at Portsmouth; having had a prosperous Journey by the Will of God, no singularly evil Occurrent having befallen us. Deo Opt. Max. Grates. Remarkable, that we should remove our whole Family 9 persons 110 Miles & journey<sup>d</sup> safely & without Accident. . . .

30. Yesterday two years ago, my Dear Wife died: and altho' Journeying, it was a melancholly day—a day never to be forgotten by me!

31. Fine Weather for the Fruits of the Earth. The People of Portsm<sup>n</sup> are kindly furnishing a good house for the Reception of my Family. I am received with all the Kindness I can wish. . . .

#### ANECDOTE.

When the En<sup>y</sup> were in Danbury they set fire to the Presbyterian Meetinghouse repeatedly, an aged & venerable Deacon æt. 80, as repeatedly extinguished it by Pails of Water which he carried into the House of Gd. to be ready to prevent such a Mischief. At length the sacrilegious Enemy knocked him down & he was supposed to be dead, tho' he revived. They threw him into the Waggon among the dead & wounded & carried him a prisoner to N. York. He saw Gov. Tryon carried on a Bier from the place where he rec<sup>d</sup> his Wounds to the ship—at N York the daily word was that

he was worse & very dangerous, & at length that he was dead. In N York the Danb<sup>y</sup> affair was considered as a bad one. Gen. Howe ordered the Deacon before him & asked him why he opposed the Kings Troops? He replied because he had been Deacon of that Chh. 40 years & he could not bear to see the House of Gd reduced to ashes; he resolved therefore to do all he could to save it & put out the fire, and that he would do the same again. The General offered him the Kings Pardon, the Deacon refused & rejected it with Scorn, saying he was ready to die for his Country. The Gen. then asked him what he shd do with him? The Deacon replied, he was in his hands he might do with him as he pleased, his age was such he could not expect to live long, the General might kill him if he pleased, or dismiss him or do with him as seemed good in his sight. Or to this effect. Gen. How dismissed him & he returned to Danbury. One that had this from Gen. Arnolds mouth told it to D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy of Boston. Gen. Arnold also said he reced. it from the Deacon's mouth. Arnold also shewed a List of above *four hundred* of the Enemy killed in the Danb<sup>y</sup> Affair; phps killed & wounded. The Party of the Enemy might be 2,000—phps one Quarter were damaged, i. e. as much as if it had been a regular pitched Battle. They may perhaps in all Excursions & Coups de maine expect a Loss from the American despised manner of Fighting equal to what they might expect from the European or disciplinary Manner of Fighting. Such Harrassings are equal to Victories. Witness *Lexington* and *Bunker Hill*. . . .

June.

1. Ldsdy. The first Sabbath after my Removing to Portsmouth, I preached there A.M. on 1 Cor. ii, 2. P.M. Ps. cxliii, 1, 2. I baptized Joseph son of Joseph Walker, propounded three persons, Sam<sup>l</sup>, Jeremiah & James Hill, Brothers, to recognize their baptismal Covenant. . . .

2. The Enemys Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Danbury Affair as published in N. York 1 May—"A Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of 250 men from each of the follow<sup>s</sup> Reg<sup>ts</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> 15<sup>th</sup> 23<sup>d</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> 44<sup>th</sup> & 64<sup>th</sup>, a Subalterns Command of Dragoons, 300 of Gov. Brown's Corps, & six 3 p<sup>o</sup> under the Command of Major Gen. Tryon & Brig. Generals Agnew & Sir Jn<sup>o</sup> Erskine proceeded up the E. River, & on friday Even<sup>g</sup> last (Apr. 25) at 6 o'clock landed at Compq point near Norwalk. The Debark<sup>a</sup> being completed about ten the Troops got in motion, & after a march

of 25 Miles arrived without opposition at Danbury, at three o'clock on Saturday Afternoon (Apr. 26). The Remainder of that day, & part of the next morning were employed in destroying the Stores.—At nine o'clock (Apr. 27) they began their March back to the Shipping & proceeded without Interruption until they approached *Ridgfield*, where they found a Body of the Rebels under Mr. Arnold who had fortified the Entrance of the Town w<sup>o</sup> they carried after small opposition, with considerable Loss on the side of the Rebels; the Rear repulsing another Body, who attacked them at the same time under Mr. Wooster. The Troops continued their March next Morning (Apr. 28) at IV o'clock, the Rebels firing on their flanks & Rear, but fr. such a Distance as to do them little Injury. About half a mile from the Ships where the Troops halted, part of the *Rebel Army, which consisted of at least Four Thousand*, kept up a heavy fire from behind stone walls, whilst two columns made a shew of attacking; but part of the Detachment charged them with fixt Bayonets & put them to total Rout with consid. Slaughter. The Troops after remain<sup>s</sup> some time upon the Ground, embarked with the greatest Order & Regularity without further Interruption from the Rebels who never shewed themselves more.—The Loss sustained was *fourteen* men killed, ten Officers and *Eighty* men wounded, most of them slightly."

Rem. 1. Our Estimate of the Enemy was 2000 or nearly just. Their acc<sup>o</sup> of themselves 1500 Troops 300 Tories & phps 20 Horse, Total 1800. 2. Their Estimate of us enormous—phps to our Dishonor we had not above 5 or 600 [1200], and to Gov. Tryon they appeared 4000. 3. They speak of their Loss cautiously, 104 killed & wounded. Whereas it is asserted by some from N. York "that Howes Army have suffered in that Affair from *five to nine hundred* in killed, wounded & missing." That "of ours *Eighteen* were killed, & *Sixty* wounded, of whom (by May 14) seven are dead, & the rest like to recover." It is impossible to get the Truth. It serves however to convince the Enemy that whenever & as often as they shall be inclined to make a Marchment into the Country, they must count upon two things (1) that considerable Numbers will soon gather and attend them in their march. (2) that they must expect to be harrassed either from behind stone walls or in open field, with a Loss equal to a pitcht Battle.

It has been s<sup>d</sup> that the En<sup>y</sup> are spreading counterfeit Money. In the infamous Hugh Gaines Court Gazette of Apr. 14, printed in



the City of N. York is this Advert. viz. "Persons going into the other Colonies may be supplied with any Number of Counterfeited Congress Notes, for the price of the Paper p<sup>r</sup> Ream. They are so nearly & exactly executed that there is no Risque in getting them off; it being almost impossible to discover that they are not genuine. This has been proved by Bills to a very large Am<sup>t</sup> w<sup>ch</sup> have been successfully circulated." One Man was taken up at Peekskill, begin<sup>g</sup> May, with 88 Bills—& another with Bills to amo<sup>t</sup> of £2700 counterfeit—others at Narragansett—& sundry have been executed for uttering them in Carol. Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & N. Engld. The Plot is detected & checked. . . . .

Isaac began School at Mr. Holbrooks.

3. Settling in my House at Portsmouth. A heavy Thunder Storm: the Lightning killed a Woman in a house about 30 Rods from that in which I was. The good Lord preserved me & mine from Danger—tho' I was but 8 or *ten* Rods off of the Garden in which the Thunder struck a second Time. The Physician & Women examined the Body but found *no Crosses*, as was found in persons struck with Lightning in a Cathedral in Engld. an acc<sup>n</sup> of which is preserved by Scaliger. See Warburton's Julian. The Woman was let blood in the Arm—a little venal Blood issued & stopt:—afterwards she Evacuated at the Orifice two Quarts of Blood. [Two Men killed the same day at Framingham by Lightning.]

4. All my Family lodged in our new Habitation.

5. Col. Belcher from Boston informs me there is Advice of a bloody Battle at Bonum Town in the Jersies, in which we lost 500, & took 900—a very great slaughter among the Kings Troops [not verified]. The Action was favorable on the American side. It is favorable to us, if we fought so bravely as to loose 500 killed, tho' we shd. even have been repulsed—because it serves to convince the World that none may expect to attack us without the prospect of a bloody Reception.

I preached an Even<sup>g</sup> sacramental Lecture in my own Congreg<sup>n</sup> in Portsm<sup>o</sup> 1 Pet. ii, 24, 25. . . . .

7. This day I baptized privately an Infant very sick viz. James the Son of Jn<sup>o</sup> Varrell & Mary his Wife late of the Isle of Sholes from whence they are driven by the Calamities & Dangers of the present War. She had formerly owned the Coven<sup>t</sup> at the Chh. at the Isle of Shoals & had 2 children baptized. Deacon Penhallow approved it; but none of the chh present.

Rev. Mr. Stevens of Kitt<sup>y</sup> left Cambridge yesterday & says Gen. Wash. is at Bound Brook with 16000 Cont. Troops, & G. Putnam at Peekskill with 4000. That Mr. Beach D<sup>r</sup> Franklins Son in Law received a Letter from the D<sup>r</sup> dated in March, in which he says the State of Europe is just as he could wish.—The Return of Troops at Ticonderoga about 27 May was 4½ Thous<sup>d</sup>, of which 2900 privates not including serjeants or any officers—Officers full, but the privates fall short.

A Letter from Haverhill in Cohoss dated 2<sup>d</sup> June from Col. Hurd informs by 2 frenchmen from Canada, that the Enemy have about *Three hundred* at Isle du Noix, 200 at S<sup>t</sup> Johns, 30 at Chamble, small parties up & down the Country, Canadians generally refuse to take Arms, Indians refuse & are gone home, G. Burgoyne arrived at Quebec 10 May without Recruits but says 30 Transports are coming after him. Near half are dead out of about 7000 Brit. & Hess. Troops—two Reg<sup>ts</sup> marched for Quebec & another going.

Estimate of G. Wash. Army, Adj<sup>t</sup> Bradford says 18,000, Mr. Stevens 16000 in Jersies & 4000 Peekskill, Continental Troops all carried thro' Inoculation well clothed &c, besides Militia. . . . .

8. Ldsdy I preached at Portsmouth A.M. 2 Cor. v, 14, 15. After the Congregation was dismissed . . . . . I administered the Communion of the Lds Supper to phps. 50 Communicants. P.M. Eccles. — and baptized Mary the Daughter of Benjamin Miller and his Wife. Notified Catechising the Children.

9. Reading Magazines . . . . .

Col. Eleazar Fitch<sup>t</sup> of Windham is in Goal & Irons for Treason. Sundry Plots are detected. Much Havock among the Tory System of *Enlistments*, *Preparations* & Readiness to joyn the Kings Troops at their expected Landing, *Moneymaking*, &c. in different parts of the Continent. Such vigorous Measures taken as will probably subdue the manyheaded Monster, Last Week a Conspiracy was detected in New Hampshire & sundry apprehended. Three hundred Tories in Jersey about the middle of May had plan'd an attack upon a small post of Militia under Gen. Herd in the Jersies but disappointed by a Stratagem, by which they were led to kill one another. . . . .

Charlest<sup>t</sup>, S. Car<sup>t</sup>, March 20. "The Hon. Button Gwinnet Esqr is elected Governor of the State of Georgia, in the Room of his

<sup>1</sup>A Yale graduate of 1743, and High Sheriff of Windham County, Conn., from 1753 to 1776. He removed to Nova Scotia in 1783, and died in 1796.

Excell<sup>r</sup> Archibald Bulloch Esqr. deceased." Gov. Bulloch was a very sensible & excellent man.

Report the Enemy left S<sup>t</sup> Johns 4000, were in sight of Crownpt<sup>t</sup> Wed<sup>ny</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> May. If so the Cohoss News a Stratagem : & we may expect an Action at Ticonderoga.

This Aft. I catechised 92 Boys and between 30 & 40 Girls, Total 130 children of the Congregation—using Westminster Assemb. Catechism.

11. Two of the Enemys Ships off the Isle Sholes this Day. Our Fleet have sent in two prizes : but where they now are is unknown.

12. . . . . In B<sup>o</sup> Gazette of 9 June, acc<sup>o</sup> of our tak<sup>e</sup> a Transp<sup>t</sup> fr. Irel<sup>d</sup>. for N. York with 63 Hessians—& a Ship with 84 Hessians.—“ These 2 Transp<sup>ts</sup> were part of a fleet of *fourteen sail* under convoy of two Frigates, with about *six hundred Recruits* which sailed fr. Irel<sup>d</sup> about the 10<sup>th</sup> of May, & possibly have arrived by this Time, & no doubt we shall receive a pompous acc<sup>o</sup> fr. Gaines Lying Gazette (N. York) of a Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> of as many Thousds as there are hundreds. *Nine sail of Transp<sup>ts</sup> sailed at the same time for Quebec* with Troops mak<sup>e</sup> up we hear in the whole 1500 Men.”

Rem. 1. Allow 70 or 80 to a Transp<sup>t</sup>. So a fleet of 30 sail may convey 2000—100 sail 6 or 7000 instead of 10 Th. as the Tories estimate. 2. The whole Fleet sail<sup>e</sup> fr. Irel<sup>d</sup> together containing 25 or 26 sail may be called 30 sail & puffed off as going to Quebec & also for N. York, & by this Artifice the public made to believe two 30 sail fleets, whereas it is but one divided after coming out of port. 3. Not only is the fleet divided but the whole contain<sup>e</sup> only 1500 instead of 3 or 4000 as represented by the Tories. 4. This confirms my Estimate of 3500 or 3000 Total Troops bro<sup>t</sup> to Newp<sup>t</sup> last Dec. in about 55 or 60 Transp<sup>ts</sup> & a dozen Men o<sup>r</sup> War. The Tories called them 6 or 8000. Troops coming from N. York to Newp<sup>t</sup> must carry Provisions with them as much as if they crossed the Atlantic. They bro<sup>t</sup> 6 or 800 Women with them to Newport.

13. . . . . The Town of Hutchinson in Mass. Bay last week petitioned the Gen. Court to alter their Name which Gen. Gage had given the Town, in honor to Gov. Hutchinson his predecessor : testifying their Abhorrence of his Memory, & considering it an Infamy & Dishonor that their Town shd. bear his Name. The Court changed the Name to *Barrè* in honor to Col. Barrè a celebrated Patriot in Parliament.



. . . . . "Halifax June 13 (1776) The Brit. Fleet is gone fr. this place for N. York ; great Dissention prevailed on their Departure among the officers and soldiers.—This Morn<sup>g</sup> about 2 o'clock two Transp<sup>ts</sup> foundered in a Gale of Wind near this place, & about three hundred Troops . . . . perished . . . ." Rem. 1. Were the 300 which foundered in two Ships Scotch Troops? If so, then, 2. Of the say 2500 Caledonians w<sup>c</sup> embarked at Greenock in 1776 about half failed ; for 800 were captivated by our privateers.

14 . . . . . Conversed with Mr. Coleman who was shut up in Boston with the Kings Troops. He says the Associators<sup>1</sup> were three military companies (two of 60 & one of seventy men) making 190 or 200 Men who did Duty. Above half were cordial Tories, the rest Actuated by Timidity, Poverty & Want. That the whole of the *Old N<sup>e</sup> Meetinghouse* was distributed among the *Associators only*, about one cord apiece. That the most of the Episcop<sup>a</sup> were Tories. That D<sup>r</sup> Byles the Father whose Meet<sup>g</sup> was taken for Barracks was permitted to hold worship in D<sup>r</sup> Chauncys or Old Brick. That he attended D<sup>r</sup> Eliots<sup>2</sup> as did most of the Congregationalists in Town & his House not so full as his own original Congregation usually was. That the Whig Inhab. did not despair of the Amer. Cause but believed & expected Deliverance.

15. Ldsdy. A.M. I exchanged with D<sup>r</sup> Haven and preached on Rom. vi, 22, P.M. in my own Pulpit on Philip. ii, 15, 16, and baptized Daniel son of Jeremiah Hill & Mary his Wife—Samuel & James sons of Samuel Hill and Mary his Wife—Elisha son of James Hill & Eunice his Wife—said Jer<sup>e</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> & James first making Profession of the Faith & entering into Covenant.

16. Yesterday several Kings ships seen off here. I make entries partly as I have time, & partly after wait<sup>g</sup> for just accounts.

17. Anniversary of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

18. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Clark<sup>3</sup> Episc<sup>o</sup> Minister in Dedham was last week adjudged by a Jury an Enemy to his Country & sent on board the Guard Ship at Boston. So one Episc<sup>o</sup> and one Presb. Minister (Dr. Byles) formally tried & condemned accord<sup>g</sup> to act of Mass. Assembly.

The ELECTION of Councillors 28<sup>th</sup> May last as usual in Massachu-

<sup>1</sup> The organization known as Loyal American Associators, made up of those who had volunteered their services for military duty.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot, minister of the New North Church.

<sup>3</sup> William Clark (Harvard 1759).

setts. They procede still in their old way. The Assembly requested the Towns to empower them to form a Polity—some Towns did & some did not empower them—not eno' however to make them act. There is a prevail<sup>g</sup> Disposition in that State for having only one Branch in the Legislature: others who are for two Branches are divided, & both fear if a Polity should be constructed under the present Taste of the people a Council or second Branch would be excluded. So both are desirous to defer the Matter. Again the Councillors & others that chuse to have the Elect. of Councillors stand not on the pple. at large but on the Choice of the Representatives only, hope by deferring phps. at length to bring that into the polity. They none of them discern the true Plan of Polity: it is hid from all, but Virginia. . . . .

19. I saw a Letter from a Chaplain dated at Ticonderoga 2<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>. He says our Army there is *Three Thousand* in good Health & supplied with good Provisions: that there were movements of Import<sup>a</sup> by the Enemy on the Lakes. . . . .

20. . . . . There are 70 Soldiers at the Forts in Portsmouth & 300 in the State.

21. It is said that some Recruits are arrived at N York—that G. Howe is assembl<sup>g</sup> all his Force at Brunswick, & that G. Wash. daily expects some capital Action. . . . .

In Philad<sup>a</sup> print of 28 May last—"The Trustees of New Jersey College have conferred the Degree of Doctor in Divinity upon the Rev. William Gordon of Roxbury in the State of Mass. Bay; and upon the Rev<sup>d</sup> Abiel Leonard of Woodstock in the State of Connecticut." List of Doctors SS.T. in America living 1777.

|             |                               |            |                                 |          |
|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|---------------------------------|----------|
| 1742        | Charles Chauncy               | Edin.      | <sup>1</sup> Ebenr. Pemberton   | Neo Cæs. |
| 1762        | Saml. Langdon                 | Ab.        | <sup>1</sup> Arch. Ladly        | Neo Cæs. |
| 175-        | <sup>1</sup> Fra. Alison      | Ed. or Gl. | John Livingston                 | Ultraj.  |
| 1765. Mart. | Ezra Stiles                   | Edin.      | <sup>1</sup> Jno. Joachim Zubly | N. Cæs.  |
|             | Jno. Witherspoon              | Ab.        | <sup>1</sup> Benja. Lord        | Yal.     |
| 1765. Sept. | Mather Byles                  | Ab.        | <sup>1</sup> Stephen Williams   | Dart.    |
|             | <sup>1</sup> Saml. Cooper     | Edin.      | <sup>1</sup> Saml. Locke        | Harv.    |
|             | <sup>1</sup> Andrew Eliot     | Ed.        | <sup>1</sup> Nathl. Appleton    | Harv.    |
|             | James Dana                    | Edin.      | <sup>1</sup> Saml. Mather       | Harv.    |
|             | Jos. Bellamy                  | Ab.        | <sup>1</sup> ——— Pumroy         | Dart.    |
|             | <sup>1</sup> Eleazar Wheelock | Ed.        | <sup>1</sup> Naphtali Daggett   | Neo Cæs. |
|             | —— Whitaker St. And.          | 1777       | William Gordon                  | N. Cæs.  |
|             | Saml. Haven                   | Ed.        | <sup>1</sup> Abiel Leonard      | N. Cæs.  |
|             | Jno. Rodgers                  | Edin.      | Jno. Ewing                      | Scot.    |

[<sup>1</sup> Dead before Jany. 1, 1787.]

Exclusive of myself—five of these are truly *learned* Divines.

22. Lordsday at Portsm<sup>o</sup> A.M. I preached on Deut. iv, 39, 40. P.M. 1 Cor. vi, 20. Reading Abp. Leighton on Peter. Also this day I read out the whole Gospel according to John. I began Matthew 8th Inst. & in a Fourt'night have finished the four Gospels.

24. Excessive hot weather. Therm<sup>o</sup>. 88 at Noon.

26. Excessive hot. Fah. Th. 89 at XI in W. shade, Ninety at Noon in an East shade, at three Qu<sup>r</sup>s after One P.M. Ninety three in N.W. shade. Last Tuesd<sup>y</sup> morn<sup>g</sup> an Express to Boston bro't acc<sup>o</sup> that G. Carleton from Canada Via Water had joyned G. Howe at Brunsw. and that the Kings Army had marched twelve Miles from Brunswick towards Philadelphia. Something probably very serious at the Westward, as we have little News from them for three Weeks.

27. Th. at XI $\frac{1}{4}$  was 92 in W. shade ; at Noon 94 in N.W. shade ; at one 91 in E shade ; at Two P.M. 90, at III $\frac{1}{2}$  it was 88 . . . . .

Sam<sup>t</sup> Esdaile's Lett. to Ned Winslow from Rh. Isld. dated June 17, 1777, says Gen. Howe has "at least 30,000 with Continentals, which is at least 10,000 the last Return being 7800." Rem<sup>a</sup> 1. The Regulars only 20 Thous<sup>d</sup>. 2. The Continentals of G. Howes Army are mostly Islanders. In L. Isld. & Rh. Isld. & York Isld., the Inhabitants may be 6 or 7000 Men inclusive of the Refugee Tories. . . . .

28. . . . . This Evening I joyned in Marriage John Sharples late of Liverpool in Engld. now resid<sup>t</sup> in Portsm<sup>o</sup> & Mary Libby of Portsm<sup>o</sup>.<sup>1</sup>

29. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Titus iii, 4, 7. P.M. Mr. Clark a young Candidate æt. 22 preached for me on 1 Peter iii. I propounded three persons. . . . .

July.

1. The visiting List of my present Congregation consists of 193 Names or Heads of Families, as I received it of Deacon Penhallow—and yet it is not complete. There are about 230 Fam. in this Congregation. There are five worshipping Assemblies in Portsmouth. Mine which is the first Cong<sup>l</sup> Chh., Dr. Haven's which is

<sup>1</sup>In his MS. Thermometrical Record Dr. Stiles notes under this day : This Afternoon 80 Hessian Soldiers circa, inclusive 6 or 7 women & 1 child, passed thro' Portsm<sup>o</sup>. Taken & carried into Kenebec. Our Furniture arrived.



the 2<sup>d</sup> Cong<sup>l</sup> Chh., the Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh now destitute of a Minister, a Sep<sup>a</sup> Cong<sup>l</sup> Chh late Mr. Drowns now vacant, & very small Sandimanian Society not exceed<sup>g</sup> a dozen if half a doz. families—tho' they have a small Meetgh. which would hold 30 or 40 families, yet they have done meeting in it, and phps 8 or 10 persons meet privately every Ldsdy.<sup>1</sup> I estimate

|                         |   |   |   |   |              |
|-------------------------|---|---|---|---|--------------|
| The 1 <sup>st</sup> Chh | . | . | . | . | 230 families |
| 2 <sup>d</sup> Chh      | . | . | . | . | 200          |
| 3 <sup>d</sup> Chh      | . | . | . | . | 150          |
| Episc <sup>o</sup>      | . | . | . | . | 70           |
| Sand.                   | . | . | . | . | 5            |

[The list of the First Church preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers, is as follows:—

|                           |                                             |
|---------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| George Ayers              | Benj <sup>a</sup> Akerman, jun <sup>r</sup> |
| Thomas Ayers              | Capt. John Briard                           |
| Benj <sup>a</sup> Akerman | Capt. Sam <sup>l</sup> Briard               |
| Joseph Alcock             | George Boyd, Esq. [absent]                  |
| Jonathan Ayers            | Samuel Beck                                 |
| Joseph Akerman            | Joshua Brackett, Esq.                       |
| Walter Akerman            | David Brewster                              |
| Barnet Akerman            | William Brewster                            |
| Benj <sup>a</sup> Austin  | Benjamin Bigelow                            |

<sup>1</sup> Compare the following extract from a letter of the Rev. Dr. Langdon (Dr. Stiles's predecessor in his Portsmouth parish) to Dr. Stiles, dated Sept. 17, 1766:—

Mr. Sandeman's Chh. here has lately had some small increase : I am informed that 16 Communicants now make up their Chh. They all discover a very malevolent Spirit, & high Enthusiasm very much like that of the hottest New Lights, however frigid Sandemans notions may seem to his Readers. His Meeting House is not much frequented by any but those of his party ; & about thirty persons are his constant Hearers, including the Chh. His Hearers I said, but as he himself is now in Connecticut, his Desk is supplied with two preaching Elders ; one of which whose Name is Mitchelson came from Scotland ; the other is from among themselves, viz. Colbourn Barrel, who has lately become Bankrupt. His Bro<sup>r</sup>. Nathl. Barrel of his Majesty's Council in this Province, who within a few weeks past has been made a Deacon of Sandeman's Chh, is also very lately shut up & indeed the whole Society seems to be in a fair way to break up by neglect of their temporal Interest, & the expensive methods of their management. We let them very much alone, & I am persuaded if they are not drove firm together by some kind of persecution, they will soon grow lax & disjointed by jealousies & quarrels among themselves ; for perfect ease & freedom are opposite to the very basis of their Scheme.

Thomas Bowler  
 Joseph Boyd  
 [Rich<sup>d</sup> Billings]  
 Samuel Cate  
 Capt. John Clark  
 William Caverly  
 Samuel Cutts, Esq.  
 Doctor Ammi R. Cutter  
 Col. Supply Clap  
 Samuel Cate, jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Henry Carter, Esq.  
 John Cate  
 Thomas Currier  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Chadbourn  
 Richard Champney  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Gambling Carter  
 Capt. Andrew Clark  
 Capt. John Dennit  
 John Dennit, jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Capt. Eliphalet Daniels  
 Capt. Thomas Dalling  
 Ephraim Dennit  
 Nathaniel Dennit  
 Jeremiah Dennit  
 Gershom Flag  
 John Furnald  
 Capt. Mark Furnald  
 Humphry Furnald  
 Nathaniel Folsome  
 Capt. John Flag  
 John Foster  
 Daniel Grant  
 John Gunnison  
 James Gooch  
 George Gains, Esq.  
 Nath<sup>l</sup> Sheafe Griffith  
 Capt. John Gregory  
 John Gooch  
 John Greenleaf  
 Col. John Hart  
 William Ham  
 John Ham  
 Richard Hart  
 John Hart, jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Robert Ham  
 Capt. Thomas Hart  
 William Hart  
 George Ham

Elisha Hill  
 Samuel Ham  
 Daniel Hart  
 Charles Hodgdon  
 Timothy Ham  
 Samuel Hill  
 Edward Hart  
 Samuel Ham, at Plains  
 Capt. John Hart, Tertius  
 Dennis Hight  
 Jeremiah Hill  
 James Hill  
 Phineas Hodgdon  
 Joseph Ham  
 Samuel Jackson  
 Doctor Clement Jackson, Esq.  
 Nathaniel Jackson  
 Richard Jenkins  
 Richard Jackson  
 William Knight, Esq.  
 Temple Knight  
 Peter Kennison  
 John Langdon  
 Daniel Lunt  
 Capt. Woodbury Langdon  
 William Langdon  
 John Langdon, Esq.  
 Doctor Stephen Little  
 Solomon Loud  
 Tobias Lear  
 George Libbey  
 Jeremiah Libbey  
 John Langdon, Tertius  
 Richard Langdon  
 John Moffatt, Esq.  
 Peter Man  
 Joseph Moulton  
 Moses Miller  
 John Martin  
 John Mendum  
 Neil M<sup>c</sup>Intyer  
 Benjamin Miller  
 Francis Massverse  
 Henry Meserve  
 Thomas Moses  
 Mark Nelson  
 Hannah Newmarch  
 Mehetabel Odiorne

John Peverly  
 William Parker, Esq.  
 Nath'l. Peverly  
 Penhallow, Samuel, Esq  
 Penhallow, John, Esq.  
 Joshua Pike  
 John Parker, Esq.  
 Peter Pearse  
 Capt. Robert Parker  
 Thomas Priest  
 Capt. William Parker  
 Nathaniel Pitman  
 Capt. John Parrot  
 John Pitman  
 Ezekiel Pitman  
 Daniel Peirce  
 John Peirce  
 Rich<sup>d</sup> Wibird Penhallow  
 William Priest  
 William Parker, silversmith  
 Joseph Pitman  
 Thomas Quint  
 Daniel Rogers, Esq.  
 Daniel Rindge, Esq.  
 Nehemiah Rowel  
 John Raynes  
 John Seaward  
 John Sherburne, Esq.  
 James Stoodly, Esq.  
 Samuel Sherburne  
 Joseph Simes  
 Benjamin Slade  
 Henry Sherburne  
 Nathaniel Shannon  
 Jonathan Shillaber  
 Edward Snell  
 Mark Seavey  
 George Snell  
 Capt. Josiah Shackford  
 John Seavey  
 John Sherburne, Cabinet Maker

Joseph Shillaber  
 Katharine Shackford  
 Joseph Shillaber, jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Hannah Sheriff  
 Eleanor Shackford  
 Jonathan Sweat  
 Keith Spence  
 Charles Treadwell  
 Nath<sup>l</sup> Treadwell, Merch<sup>t</sup>  
 Nath<sup>l</sup> Treadwell  
 Jacob Treadwell  
 William Torrey  
 Richard Trusdel  
 Capt. Tuckerman  
 Nathaniel Twing  
 [Wife Rob<sup>t</sup> Trail, Esq.]  
 Hunking Wentworth, Esq.  
 Michael Whidden  
 Gideon Walker  
 Ann Walker  
 Joseph Walker  
 William Whipple, Esq.  
 Joseph Whipple  
 Elizabeth Wibird  
 Joseph White  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Welch, jun<sup>r</sup>  
 Thomas Walden  
 Nahum Ward  
 Tobias Warner  
 Moses Woodward  
 Daniel Walker  
 Jacob Walden  
 Joseph Wincol  
 Tobias Walker  
 Waters, Founder  
 Wiggins  
 Mark Walker  
 Seth Walker  
 George Pendealer  
 William Walker  
 Mr. Livermore]

Interspersed among my miscellaneous Writings may perhaps be found Things respecting the Rosacrucian Philosophy, which may induce some to imagine that I have more Knowledge of that matter than I really have. I have no Knowledge of it at all; I never saw Transmutation, the aurific Powder, nor the Philosophers Stone;



nor did I ever converse with an Adept knowing him to be such. The only Man that I ever suspected as a real & true Adept was Rabbi Tobias<sup>1</sup> of Poland, but he evaded my Interrogatories & communicated to me nothing—I believe he was only a conjectural speculative Philosopher. I have known 2 or 3 Persons (as Judge Danforth<sup>2</sup> & Rev. Mr. West) who believed the reality of the Philosophers Stone, but neither of them ever obtained it. They are only conjectural & speculative Philosophers—and of such, D<sup>r</sup> Franklin told me there were several at Philad<sup>a</sup> &c. who were losing their Time in chemical Experiments to no Effect. I never had, or made an Exp<sup>t</sup> with, a Furnace or Alembic in all my Life. I am not versed in the Books of the Adepts; I have seen but few of those Authors, & read less—perhaps all the little I have read collectively would not equal a common Octavo Volume. I am infinitely less acquainted with that than any other of the Sciences in the whole Encyclopædia of Literature. I never absorbed the extracted Sulphur of Gold in Terra: I have no practical Knowl. of the Matter: the few Ideas I have about it are only imaginary, conjectural & speculative. Coram Deo Veritas.

2. Rev. Benj<sup>a</sup> Prescott died at Danvers 20<sup>th</sup> May 1777, æt. 90. Born Sept 16, 1687. Educated at Harvard Coll. ordained Pastor of the third Chh. in Salem 23<sup>d</sup> Sept. 1713, continued in this office about 45 years. He resigned in Character—became a civil Magistrate. In all parts & stations of Life his Conduct excellent. A true Patriot in the present American War.

3. A Letter from a Merch<sup>t</sup> in Engl<sup>d</sup> to one [Hugh Wallace] in N York dated April last, says, that they doubt not if the present Campaign is as Ineffectual as the last, that the Colonies will be acknowledged as Independ<sup>t</sup> States as the VII provinces were by Philip—that in that case a *federal Union would soon heal all Animosities*, & prove & render Engl<sup>d</sup> more formidable to France than a Confederacy of all the Northern Powers—or to this Effect. This is the secret—this the Idea L<sup>d</sup> Stormont suggested to the Court of Paris, & all the Brit. Ambassadors to all the Courts of Europe, as the principle on which they confided—that they knew how to make up with the Colonies at any Time, & would do it.—But they may know there is such a Thing as out staying the day of Grace & Reconciliation.

<sup>1</sup> Cf. this Diary, Nov. 22, 1773.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. this Diary, Oct. 3, 1777.

I went to Northampton alias N<sup>o</sup> Hill & preached Mr. Macclures' sacramental Lecture Cant. ii, 2-4. Here I met with two other Ministers—Rev Mr Rogers<sup>2</sup> of Exeter æt 70. He tells me he was acquainted with my Father, about 1733, saw him at Cambridge & Boston & heard him preach. He resided at Harvard College twenty years, the last seven years as Tutor, & left it about 1741. He had an unanimous Call to settle in the New N<sup>o</sup> Chh. in Boston in 1740, when Mr. Whitf<sup>3</sup> com<sup>e</sup> along, Mr Rogers tho't it his duty to devote himself to Itinerancy to promote the good Work. He thereupon left College & the N<sup>o</sup> Chh. Call, was ordained at large at Old York by Mr. Moody &c, and travelled thro' the Land as far as Brunswick in Jersey & thence bro't back M<sup>r</sup> Tennent. He laboured at large till 1748 when he accepted a Call & settled at Exeter. He reads without Glasses & yet is not near sighted. He is a Man of large stature, of good Understand<sup>c</sup>, but not of the finest Abilities or Acquisitions. I should not take his Scholarship to be great from a very small acquaintance, but I believe he is a good Divine, & a Man of Sanctity. The Rev. Mr. Macclintock<sup>3</sup> was also there. He is a sensible Divine & a good Reasoner.

In the Aft. I returned & attend our joynt Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lecture at D<sup>r</sup> Haven's Meetinghouse when both our Chhs assembled in the Eveng. D<sup>r</sup> Haven's son young Mr. Haven<sup>4</sup> æt. 22, preached. . . .

4. ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICAN INDEPENDENCY celebrated at Portsmouth. At one o'clock Discharge of Canon at Fort Washington, F<sup>t</sup> Sullivan, the Raleigh and the Portsm<sup>o</sup> two Ships on the Continental Navy, and a French Ship. Last Even<sup>g</sup> Col. Whipple a Member of Congress for this State arrived here. I waited on him this Aft. and he told me he left Philad<sup>a</sup> & Congress 19<sup>th</sup> ult. was at Fishkills 23<sup>rd</sup> at New London 27<sup>th</sup> where he saw Cap<sup>t</sup> Bulkley who left N. York in a flag Tuesdy 24<sup>th</sup> who told him G. Howe's Army was retreat<sup>e</sup> from Jersey: at Boston he saw a Gent. who had been in Brunswick after the En<sup>y</sup> evacuated it. This is the first of my crediting the Report. He told me that G. Sullivan was posted at Princeton at the time the Enemy came out of Brunsw.—& marched

<sup>1</sup> Rev. David McClure (see above, Sept. 18, 1771, etc.) was settled in North Hampton in September, 1776. In July, 1775, and again in July, 1776, he had declined calls to settle as pastor of the Society which Dr. Stiles was now supplying in Portsmouth.

<sup>2</sup> Daniel Rogers (Harvard 1725).

<sup>3</sup> Samuel McClintock (Princeton 1751), an uncle of Mr. McClure.

<sup>4</sup> Samuel Haven, Jr. (Harvard 1772).

to Somerset Courthouse ; & he then left Princeton & marched towds Cornells ferry & carried over his heavy Baggage, & then came forth to meet the En<sup>y</sup> ahead, while G. Wash. shd be on the Flanks & Rear ; that there never was such Sp<sup>t</sup> & Unanimity before as now in Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & the Jersies ; that there was a Union of the 2 Divisions of the Whig Interest in Phild<sup>a</sup> about the Policy of that State, on an agreem<sup>t</sup> to take the opin. of the pple at large. The Post came in this Afternoon & confirms &c. Hostilities in Earnest are commenced in the Ticonderoga Departm<sup>t</sup>, & the Militia alarmed & marching to within 20 Miles of Boston. . . .

GEN. ARNOLD'S LETTER TO G. MIFFLIN.

"Cornell's ferry June 15 1777 Eleven  
o'clock at Night.

DEAR GENERAL

I have rec<sup>d</sup> no Intell. fr. G. Wash. since 4 o'clock last Even<sup>g</sup> at which time the *Enemy were encamped at Somerset Courthouse* supposed to be *Eleven Thousd* in Numb. under the Command of Generals Howe & Cornwallis. This is doubtless their main body. Their first design seems to have been to cut off General Sullivans Retreat & possessed themselves of this place. Find<sup>g</sup> G. Sullivan had frustrated their Intention by a forced March, they appeared to have given over their first design, & now wish to draw G. Wash. fr. his stronghold, w<sup>e</sup> if they can effect prob<sup>ly</sup> a Body fr. Brunsw. will take possess. of it. G. Wash. will doubtless disappoint them, as he remains quiet in his Encamp<sup>t</sup>. The Militia turns out in g<sup>t</sup> N<sup>o</sup> in the Jersies. Gen. Sullivan has gone to *Flemingtown 12 Miles* fr. this. The troops who arrive here are immed<sup>y</sup> sent after him. I am very fearful the En<sup>y</sup> will retire to Brunsw. before you arrive with your Reinforc<sup>t</sup>, & oblige us to attack them at a Disadvantage ; for fight them we must ; when all our Reinforcem<sup>ts</sup> are in we cannot avoid it with Honor. Our Men are in high sp<sup>ts</sup> & in four days *we shall have upwards of Twenty Thousd. men*. G. Putnam has *Eight Thousd.* men with him. G. Wash. has wrote three days since for *four Thousd* men to be sent immed<sup>y</sup> to him. I expect every minute to hear fr. o<sup>r</sup> Army & the En<sup>y</sup>. Every Intell. of conseq. shall be forwarded to you directly. I am &c.

B. ARNOLD."

Rem. 1. The Lett. dont indicate a Want of American Courage. 2. It gives a summary comprehensive view of the state & strength of both Armies the middle of June & at the last Effort of the En<sup>y</sup> in Jersies. 3. Col. Whipple told me G. Wash. had sent for three Brigades from Fishkill Div. under Putnam : that G. Parsons & his Brigade had joyned Wash., Gen. Glover & his Brigade after sett<sup>g</sup> out was remanded & ordered to Ticonderoga, & G. McDougal & his Brigade were stop<sup>t</sup> while the Col. was at Fishkills 23<sup>d</sup> June. All w<sup>e</sup> was fr. the Alter<sup>a</sup> w<sup>e</sup> Gen. Wash. saw in the En<sup>y</sup> at this critical



season. These 3 Brig. by Arnolds Letter made 2000—hence a Brigade about 6 or 700—at least in present state. 4. G. Mifflin on 13<sup>th</sup> June had raised fifteen hundred Militia instantly in the city Philadelphia. 5. If of our Army 20 Th. G. Putnams Div. was 8000, there would be but 12 Th. with G. Wash. Hence the Wisdom of sending for 2000 more after the En<sup>y</sup>s March to Millstone River indicated they had commenced the Campaing that way in Earnest. And the Counter orders & part<sup>y</sup> direct<sup>e</sup> one Brigade for Ti. shew the early Inform<sup>a</sup> of G. Wash. & his quick Discernm<sup>t</sup> of the En<sup>y</sup>s Generalship, viz., a Penetration into N. Eng<sup>d</sup> from Canada & on the south. The Event justifies: for this Ev<sup>t</sup> (July 4) we have acc<sup>o</sup> of an Invasion at the Northward, Scalp<sup>e</sup> & other Barbarities. It is probably the last Effort of Scotch Malice is now in Execution, a Junction of the Southern & Northern Armies in a rapid Transit burning & desolating all before them, as they did from Brunswick to Amboy, where at great Distances they were beheld to mark their Way by Houses &c. on Fire. May the L<sup>d</sup> of Hosts, the G<sup>d</sup> of our Fathers be with us in this last Conflict. May the Desol<sup>a</sup> of the Eny. instead of intimidating us, excite & rouse an invincible Courage & Spirit through the body of the people—that on the public Call they may lay aside all mercenary & hireling Views and willingly offer themselves one & all to the Service of their Country & Defence of LIBERTY! It would be righteous in a holy G<sup>d</sup> to let loose Ravage & Desol<sup>a</sup>, Conflagr<sup>a</sup> & Slaughter, to chastise that Spirit of Rapacity & Extortion prevalent thro' the Land. . . . .

5. Gen. Howe's Lett. to the Sect<sup>y</sup> of State dated at N York Feb. 12, 1777.—“I have only to advise your Ldship of the Return of *a Brigade of British & some Companies of Grenadiers & Light Infantry fr. Rh. Isld.* to strengthen Ld. Cornwallis's Corps in Jersey.”—“L<sup>t</sup> G. Clinton being gone to Eng<sup>d</sup>, Ld Piercy has succeeded to the command at Rh. Isld. & has with him Major Gen. Prescott, one Troop of 17<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons & *one Brigade British & two of Hessians.*”

Rem. 1. In Glasgow print of March 20 is a Lett. dated “Piscataway a Village two miles fr. Brunswick Jany. 16, 1777.”—&c. Added is an Extr. Lett. Greenock March 12. “Last Night the G. Howe arrived fr. N. Y. w<sup>c</sup> pl. she left 3<sup>d</sup> Feb<sup>y</sup>, but brings noth<sup>e</sup> new only that *fifteen Hundred Men* by G. Howes Orders were returned to N. Y. fr. Rh. Isld.” Now the Brig<sup>a</sup> Brit. &c were

1500. Again 2. Were left at Rh. Isld. *three Brigades*, after the flower & strength of the Troops were deducted. 3. Afterwards there was another Draft from Rh. Isld. 4. Brig<sup>a</sup> but six or seven hundred; so 3 Brig<sup>a</sup> left at Rh. Isld., about 1500 or 2000. . . . .

Gov. Tryon's Lett to Sec<sup>y</sup> State.

"N. YORK Feb. 11, 1777.

"The success that accomp. my Endeav<sup>rs</sup> to unite the Inhab. of this City, by an *Oath of Allegiance & Fidelity* to his Majesty & his Gov<sup>t</sup> has met my warmest Wishes, the Inhabitants hav<sup>e</sup> qualified thereto in my presence; The Mayor Record<sup>r</sup> & Alderman Waddle were employed in *administer<sup>g</sup> the Oath*. I verily believe there are not one hundred, citizens, who have not availed themselves of this Opp<sup>y</sup> &c.—The Mayor since—has attested 50 more men, & is daily adding to the Number, which makes the *whole sworn in the city 3020*, which added to those attested on Staten Isld., in the three counties of Long Isld., & in W. Chester C<sup>y</sup> (all w<sup>c</sup> amounted to upwards of 2600) makes the *whole Amount to 5600 Men*. I am anxious that *some Grace* from Government may speedily be extended to this loyal Quarter of the Province."

W. TRYON."

Rem. 1. The 3020 Men implies 11,000 souls in the City. I had not imagined half so many left behind. 2. In five other Counties not above 2600 qualified. Of these certainly Kings C<sup>y</sup> were nearly half, because the En<sup>y</sup> publish a List of above a Thou<sup>sd</sup> Names in that C<sup>y</sup> subscribers to the Kings Proclam<sup>n</sup> of Pardon. Hence 3. The Body of Lg. Isld. had not qualified in Feb. last. 4. Easdells Lett from Newp<sup>t</sup> 17 June, mentions the last Return of Continentals 7800. This perhaps denotes the carry<sup>g</sup> the Oath of Alleg. thro' L. Isld, Brunswick &c, w<sup>c</sup> might increase to 5600 to 7800.

It is said that last month & previous to the late Movements in the Jersies Ld Howe requested an Interview with some Members of Congress. But declined.

It is said that Mr. Milles a Crown Customhouse Officer lately obtained Lib<sup>y</sup> of his Excellency Gov. Trumbull and went on his parole to N York, & returned accord<sup>g</sup> to his parole to N London: and is now seeking permission to return with his Family to G. Britain. If so, this indicates his Dispair of the Kings Cause in America.

6. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. Isai. liii, 5, & administered the Communion to 53 Communicants viz. 17 Brethren & 36 Sisters. Divine service from Ten to half after One. P.M. Tit. iii, 8.

7. Catechised 85 Boys & 40 Girls, Total 125. Last night an Express arrived at Exeter which left Ticonderoga last Wednesday, advis<sup>g</sup> that the Canadian Army had arrived at Crownp<sup>t</sup> & advanced

within 3 Miles of Ticondg<sup>a</sup>. That the Enemy consisted of Ten Thousd, & our Force there Eight Thous<sup>d</sup>, & our Militia pressing in from all parts. New Eng<sup>d</sup> is all in Commotion & in high Spirits. Something important is soon to be expected both northward & southward. May the Lord of Hosts conduct the momentous Enterprizes of the present day for his Glory & the good of his chosen.

9. . . . . Proportion of Silver & Gold in different Countries & Ages. London Ledger 29 Aug. 1776,

Before the Discovery of America, *an Ounce of Gold* in Europe was equal in Value to *ten Ounces of Silver*. But since that, in Spain an *Ounce of Gold* was equal to *sixteen ounces of Silver*—fixt so there by Law. The same Ratio nearly in all Europe. Some little Variation—the E. Ind. trade *export<sup>d</sup> silver and bringing home Gold*; & since that the Discovery of the Gold mines has influenced still more.

|                  |             |                               |            |
|------------------|-------------|-------------------------------|------------|
| In Japan . . .   | 1 to 8.     |                               |            |
| In China : . .   | 1 to 10     |                               |            |
| In Moguls Empire | 1 to 12.    |                               |            |
| Westward as . .  | 1-13-14-16. | Exo <sup>d</sup> xxxviii, 24. |            |
| France . . . .   | 1-15        | Gold . . .                    | 29 Talents |
| Spain . . . .    | 1-16        | Silver . . .                  | 100 “      |
| Engld. . . . .   | 1-15½       | Brass . . .                   | 70 “       |

The Quantity of Gold is on the Decrease in Europe, in the former proport. with silver. Hence an Agio, or profit against Gold of 2, 3, 5, 8 per cent in exchanging silver & Gold upon the par of 1 to 16.

Rem. 1. Not only the Ratio between Silver & Gold has varied, but the Value of them both has changed, since the Discov<sup>y</sup> of American Mines, & the Oriental Navigation. Two hundred years ago one ounce of Silver or Gold would buy as much as seven ounces now. This seems to prove that there is *seven Times as much Specie in Europe now as 200 years ago*. And whence did it come? did it all come from the Peruvian Mines or the Barter of India? Rem<sup>a</sup> 2. This Augment<sup>a</sup> has been more in Silver than Gold, even to one Third of the whole; an ounce of Gold being now worth 16 ounces of Silver, tho' 200 y. ago Silver was so scarce that it would fetch but ten. Rem. 3. What the cause of the Disparity of the Ratios in the East & the West? Nearly alike in all the World East & West, i. e., about 1 to 10, till the Amer. Mines augmented the Silver. May we not suppose that the nat. proport. of the Mines of



both are alike in all Regions? and that this proport. is shewn & exhibited in the proport. of Silver & Gold in the Mexican Mines. Hence the natural Quantity of Silver above Gold much greater than in the East. The Chinese & Japanese abound with Adepts who, it is said, have augmented the Gold. They were dispersed thro' Europe as well as Asia & Egypt, & made the general Ratio 1 to 10. Perhaps an Exam. of the Peruvian Registers would shew the natural Quantity 1 to 20. Rem. 4. If the Adepts have increased the Gold in Europe, while also the Amer. Mines have augmented both Gold & Silver, there will be a double Cause for the Depreciation of Money in Europe so as to be but one seventh of its Value 200 y. ago.—There are Ten Millions Specie or current Coin in G. Britain, or equal to twice the N<sup>o</sup> of pple perhaps. Suppose 120 Mill<sup>n</sup> people in Europe, the Coinage may be 200 or 250 Mill<sup>n</sup> pounds sterl<sup>s</sup> for the whole. Shall we suppose six sevenths of this more or less to have *accrued* in the last 2 or 300 years? or that she has increased 200 Million sterl<sup>s</sup> upon 30 or 40 Mill. sterl<sup>s</sup>? or Rem<sup>a</sup> 5. Shall it be principally ascribed to the erecting of *National Banks and public Funds* all over Europe, & so the substitution of *Paper Money*: in this Way *one Million real* will support the credit of *Ten nominal*. And if the Credit be good and actually supported, it amounts in its Effect to the actual & real Augment<sup>a</sup> of Silver & Gold—has the same Effect instantly as putting 200 Mill<sup>n</sup> of Gold into Circulation where before there was only 10 Million. Now the Erection of *Banks* happens to have taken place lately & to be only cotemporary with the Discov<sup>y</sup> of the Indies; and so the Depreci<sup>a</sup> of Money in Europe has been ascribed to the latter, whereas it might have arisen on the System of Funding only, had America remained yet undiscovered. Rem. 6. On the supposition that it be ascribed to Spanish Amer. Mines, a sevenfold Augment<sup>a</sup> of Quantity is not necess<sup>y</sup> to produce a sevenfold Depreciation. There is as much Provision raised in G. B. & Ireld. in 1776 as in 1774—there were no more to consume it, or at most but the 18 Th. Hessians; and yet the Victualling Office, Contractors &c were obliged to give near cent p cent Adv<sup>a</sup> in Ireld for Provisions. It is on the whole difficult to ascertain the true cause of the Alteration of the Estimated Value of Monies. All that can be said is this, that we can assign several true concurrent causes for the Depreciation of Bullion in Europe—as,—Banks or Paper Credit, Span-Amer. Mines, E. Ind. Commerce—possibly the Inhab. of Europe going more into Manu-

fact. in the 2 last Centuries & so repair<sup>e</sup> to Cities & leav<sup>e</sup> the Culture of Land may be another Reason. In Engld. say there are raised 40 Mill. Bush. of Grain or as much as 200 y. ago, yet then it was in the hand of 5 Mill. pple, now in 4 who have one Mill<sup>n</sup> pple Manufacturers more depend<sup>t</sup> upon them now than formerly, & will therefore hold Bread corn at a double price—so that the pple in populous Cities must give 2 Guineas now for as much as 1 would fetch were they all to disperse abroad again into the country. Besides there are Dogs & Horses (more than 200 y. ago) eno' in the K<sup>m</sup> consum<sup>e</sup> provision eno' for two Million of Inhabitants.

[The Congress have substituted a new Constell<sup>a</sup> of 13 Stars (instead of the Union) in the Continental Colors.]

10. Last friday celebrated at Boston as Anniversary of American *Independence*. At the Desire of the Assembly sitting there (now resolved into a Convention for construct<sup>e</sup> the Policy of the Mass. State) the Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr. Gordon preached an excellent Discourse from I Kings xii, 15. . . .

This afternoon I went over to Kittery and preached Mr. Stevens sacramental Lecture on Jno. vi. 47, 48.

11. The Committee of Safety at Exeter yesterday received a Letter directed to the President of this State, said to be written by Gen. S<sup>t</sup> Clair & dated last Sabbath at Otter Creek, purporting that our Troops had evacuated Ticonderoga the preced<sup>e</sup> night.

12. The Post which left Ticonderoga last Sat<sup>y</sup> P.M. is arrived, & informs all was well there then—that the En<sup>y</sup> were about 3 M. fr. Ticonderoga—but heard noth<sup>e</sup> of the Evacuation, till he came to N<sup>o</sup> IV or Charlestown; where he found a number of these Letters left by an unknown hand at a particular house, being covered Copies of a Letter said to be fr. G. S<sup>t</sup> Clair to the Presid<sup>t</sup> of the spontaneous Convention of a new intended State of Veremont—one covered Copy had been forwarded to New Hampshire. But it is suspected to be a Tory Fraud & another Instance of public Deception to stop the Militia.

I read a Letter from Gen. Wash. of 29<sup>th</sup> ult advis<sup>e</sup> that the thursd<sup>y</sup> preced<sup>e</sup>, viz. thursd<sup>y</sup> after Evacu<sup>a</sup> of Brunsw. the En<sup>y</sup> had not left Jersey, but marched a large body out fr. Amboy & attacked Ld Sterlings Division, & returned to Amboy. In B<sup>o</sup> print it is s<sup>d</sup> by a Lett. fr. Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> of 2<sup>nd</sup> July the En<sup>y</sup> had left Jersey.

13. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Acts xv, 18. P.M. Jas. iii, 13. Admitted Nahum Ward to the Recognizing his Baptismal cov-

enant, and baptized his Daughter Dorcas. Propounded three persons for full Communion. Between Meetings arrived here an Express confirming the Loss of Ticonderoga.

14. I went to Berwick to visit Mrs. Moore of my chh at Newport. . . . I read Gen. S<sup>t</sup> Clairs Letter of 7<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>.

16. Interview with 3 Ministers at Berwick at a Lecture: Rev. Messrs Hasey of Lebanon, Miriam of Berwick N<sup>o</sup> Chh., Spring of Kittery. I preached on Rom. iii, 24, 25.

17. Returned to Portsmouth. Gen. Sinclairs Letter dated the 7<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> at Otter Creek gave acc<sup>n</sup> of the Evacu<sup>n</sup> of Ticonderoga & Surrend<sup>r</sup> of it to the Enemy on Ldsdy 6<sup>th</sup> July Ins<sup>t</sup> and last Ldsdy 13<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> two Soldiers came to Berwick w<sup>h</sup> had escaped after being taken in an Action the 7<sup>th</sup> Instant.

Thursday Night 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> Major Gen. Prescott Command<sup>r</sup> in Chief of the Brit. forces at Rh. Isld. & one of his Aid de Camps, it is said, were taken about 4 or 5 Miles out of Newp<sup>t</sup>—by Col. Barton with 38 privates & 6 officers, making in all 45 Volunteers, who went from Warwick Neck over to the Isld. for that purpose, hav<sup>g</sup> had Inform<sup>n</sup> that the Gen. was to lodge there that night with some of his Whores. [True.]

18. Wedn<sup>y</sup> last a Packet arrived here in 40 days from France: and this Morn<sup>g</sup> Col. Langdon forwarded it to Congress. Four Packets or small Vessels sailed for Congress at the same time. Hence the Intelligence probably important.

Our Northern Army is routed and very much broken up—& the Men coming home daily. The Enemy have great Reason to triumph—& we have reason to be humbled under the Rebukes & Frowns of Heaven. Certainly there has been Error somewhere. A Spirit of Dismay & Astonishm<sup>t</sup> has spread abroad—but not a giving up the Cause. Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Clure yest<sup>y</sup> fr. Exeter tells me there is a general Sp<sup>t</sup> for rushing to Arms. Many of the last Levies were Boys—many absent Men & Officers—*six hundred* Officers loitering & dancing in Boston only.

Col. Whipple tells me that Mr. Dickinson never came into Congress again after the Resolution for Indep<sup>y</sup> was Voted in June last year. At that vote the Delegates of the 2 Provinces of N York & Pensylv<sup>a</sup> were not impowered and did not act—so Dickn. had a good Excuse. But the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Convention or Assembly then sitting the latter end of June impowered and instructed their Delegates to vote for Indep<sup>y</sup>., & renew<sup>d</sup> their Election of Delegates, left out Mr.



Dickinson—who thro' Timidity thus lost the Honor of sharing in that bold & glorious & honorable Action, voting INDEPENDENCY. He now goes into Oblivion or a dishonorable Reminiscence with Posterity—while the Names of the rest of the Delegates subscribed to the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independ<sup>y</sup>. are consigned to an honorable Immortality in the History of the United States.

Hodie finivi Perlectionem Bibliothecæ chemicæ ab Albineo editæ.

19. . . . . In Provid. print July 12. "By an express—this morn<sup>g</sup> fr. Lebanon—we learn that Howe's whole army have embarked at Staten Island, & fell down to the narrows. Their Destination not known,"—by same Express the News of Evacu<sup>a</sup> of Ticonderoga. This Embark<sup>a</sup> shews the En<sup>y</sup> have not yet pitched for the Southern Campaign. Can they mean to leave N. York? is their Aim, Delaware River? S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>? Connecticutt? Rh. Isld? or the northern parts of N. Engld.?

20. Ldsdy. Two young Candidates for the Ministry preached for me. A.M. Mr. Johnson on Jn<sup>o</sup> vi, 33. P.M. Mr. Eliot on Ephes. iii, 8. Both of Middletown in Connecticutt. Mr Johnson<sup>1</sup> has been a Preacher but two months, educated at Yale College: Mr. Eliot<sup>2</sup> 1½ year, educated at Harvard College—he preached without notes. Both worthy & promising young Ministers. They alternately preached for D<sup>r</sup> Haven also. My Meetinghouse here has two Galleries. In the N<sup>o</sup> Half below there were about 130, in the S<sup>o</sup> Half 140 or 150. Total below 280. About 120 in the first Gallery all around, & 100 in the upper Gallery: Total *Five Hundred*—certainly not 600—& yet by all, it is accounted one of the largest Congregations in N Engld. Mine at Newport 350 to 400. These Gentlemen preached at Newbury last Sabbath. Say that the Congreg<sup>a</sup> late Mr. Parsons where Mr. Hopkins now preaches, was not so large as this of mine at Portsmouth: & yet that Meetinghouse is the largest of any Congreg<sup>a</sup> or Presb<sup>y</sup> Meetgh. in N. Engld. D<sup>r</sup> Gordon of Roxb<sup>y</sup> preached in it last Ldsdy Ev<sup>g</sup> to a very crouded Audience. Both these young Gentlemen are sound. Mr. Johnson the youngest of them is of an alert vivid make, his stile & composition fine, polite & entertaining, rather than profound. Mr. Eliot is a sensible solid weighty evangelical Preacher, thinks justly & piously. The former will entertain the genteel

<sup>1</sup> Joshua Johnson (Yale 1775), settled as colleague to Dr. Stiles's uncle, the Rev. Abel Stiles, in North Woodstock, Conn., in 1780.

<sup>2</sup> Richard Rosewell Eliot (Harvard 1774), settled in Watertown, Mass., in 1780.

polite World, the latter the Saints, and of those of greatest Advancement in Knowledge Grace & Holiness. May the Blessing of the divine Jesus attend them both.

22. This day past thro' this T<sup>o</sup> for the Westward a Lieu<sup>t</sup> & other officers of the Fox Man o' War taken by our American Navy, & by Cap<sup>t</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Neil brought in at or near Kennebec. The destressed Settlers in the Frontiers adjacent or next Ticonderoga, are obliged to break up & retire into the interior settlements. They are driven off & obliged to leave the Wheat Fields just as ready for Harvest. Some leave thirty acres of Wheat. Probably a *thous<sup>d</sup> families* thus routed!

Messrs Eliot & Johnson fine Singers. The Harmonia Sacra<sup>1</sup> contains among many indifferent pieces—An Ode on the Spring—and the Dying Believer—set to excellent Music. Ezra pleased with the Dying Believer.

23. By the B<sup>o</sup> Prints—great Dissatisfaction at the Evacu<sup>a</sup> of Ticonderoga. In Remembrancer N<sup>o</sup> III acc<sup>o</sup> Bunker Hill 17 June 1775—Gen Gage says “ten Comp<sup>a</sup> of Grenadiers, ten of Light Infantry with 5<sup>th</sup>, 38<sup>th</sup> 43<sup>d</sup> & 52<sup>d</sup> Batall. with a proportion of Field Artill<sup>y</sup> under the Comm<sup>d</sup> of Maj. G. How & B. Gen. Pigot” —Addition “Some Companies of Light Infantry, and 47<sup>th</sup> Batall. & 1<sup>st</sup> Batall. Marines.” The first Detachm<sup>t</sup> G. Gage says someth<sup>g</sup> more than 2000—an Officer of Regulars says 2500—Plainly the flower of the Army. One may suppose not above 50 to a Comp<sup>a</sup> so 20 Comp<sup>a</sup> = 1000. Four Batall. = 400 each or 1600 + 1000 = 2600 or 2500—add 2 other Batall = 1000 more or at least 800—and the Companies mak<sup>g</sup> prob<sup>y</sup> 1000 for the additional Detachm<sup>t</sup> or Reinforcement. So total 3600 agreeable to Mr. Martin's Estimate to me of about 4000.

It is said that 40 Sail have passed the Sound from N. York tow<sup>ds</sup> Rh. Isld.—supposed to transport Troops to N. York. Still the Enemy's object is supposed to be the North River. [Off Watch Hill July 21.]

There are only two Scotchmen in Congress, viz. D<sup>r</sup> Witherspoon Presid<sup>t</sup> of Jersey College, & Mr. Wilson of Pensylv<sup>a</sup>, a Lawyer. Both strongly national, & can't bear any Thing in Congress which reflects on Scotland. The D<sup>r</sup> says that Scotland has manifested the greatest Spirit for Liberty as a nation, in that their

<sup>1</sup> The name of an anonymous collection, then quite widely used in New England, published by Thomas Butts, of London. A copy is in the Library of Congress at Washington.

History is full of their calling Kings to account & dethroning them when arbitrary and tyrannical. But Dethronizations & Revolutions are constantly taking place at Constantinople, Ispahann, & Dehli : no one however thinks that this will prove the Policies of Persia, & the Mogul & Turkish Empires friendly to *Liberty*. The Policy of Scotland & all the governmental Ideas of the Body of that People, are abhorrent to all Ideas of civil Liberty & are full of rigorous tyrannical Superiorities & subordinations. But D<sup>r</sup> With. goes all lengths with the Congress both in the War, Independ<sup>y</sup>, & foreign Alliances. Because he had Discernment to see from the Beginning that America would be inevitably dismembered, & then acted as all Scotchmen would do under such a conviction, determined to rise & figure in the Dismemberment & phps lay a foundation of reconciling the Americans to the Scots so far at least as to forgive them. The D<sup>r</sup> is a politician. We may use him as far as he is for America—but scorn to be awed by him into an ignominious Silence on the subject of Scots Perfidy & Tyranny & Enmity to America. Let us boldly say, for History will say it, that the whole of this War is so far chargeable to the Scotch Councils, & to the Scotch as a Nation (for they have nationally come into it) as that had it not been for them, this Quarrel had never happened. Or at least they have gloried in the Honor of exciting & conduct<sup>g</sup> these Measures avowedly by their Earl of Bute behind the Curtain. Mr. Wilson is a dubious Character.

24. At Berwick last Week I saw a manufactory of Copperas lately set up there by Col. Chadburn. He shewed me in a Keeler some of the Coperas as it had just been set aside for chrystallizing. The Rock or Stones are found in great Plenty in Lebanon about 8 or 10 M. off. A Man at York bro't home 6 or 7 pounds of stone, & powder<sup>g</sup> it dissolved it in Water & boiling it down, the Chrystals formed & weighed a pound. Upon this Applic<sup>a</sup> was made to the Colonel to be at the Expense of buying Kettles &c. But he having a Saltpetre Work, offer'd them that for the present. Thereupon the Men carted a Load of Rock thither & are now breaking & soaking it, & boiling down the impregnated Water. The Copperas is excellent. . . . This day two prizes brought into Portsmouth.

25. . . . I saw a Letter of 14<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> from D<sup>r</sup> Cutter at Fishkill. He says that Gen. Sullivan with his Division crossed N<sup>r</sup> River over to Peek's Kill the preced<sup>g</sup> day—that Gen. Wash<sup>g</sup> was there between Pompion Town & Haverstraw marching northward



—that it was said a Ship of the Eny. & several Tenders had come up within 15 M. of Peek's Kill.

Yesterday Gen. Stark marched from this State of N. Hamp. with 2500 Men, who instantly enlisted upon the News of Evacu<sup>n</sup> of Ticond.; they are gone towards Castletown to defend the Frontiers.

Upon the 40 sail Transp<sup>t</sup> com<sup>g</sup> against Rh. Isld. Gov. Cooke sent a Letter to Mass. to request their Militia. Accord<sup>y</sup> by one means or another—there is at this Time a general Commotion & Movement of the Militia, some for Rh. Isld, some to the Northw<sup>d</sup> besides the continental Levies raising & marching to their respective Rendezvous. May the Great God guide, influence & bless the momentous Enterprizes now prosecut<sup>d</sup> for the Defence of public Liberty.

This Even<sup>g</sup> I baptized Samuel Gerrish, son of Daniel Hart & Mary his Wife, privately being dangerously sick. Afterwards I married John Mills & Sarah Libbey, both of this Town, after legal Publication.

26. It is reported that *Capt. Manley* [Deserters fr. Halifax arrived at Newb<sup>y</sup> Aug. 1, say Manly is taken] in one of the Continental Frigates has escaped after his Engagement with a British Frigate, & is arrived at Mount Desert. This day President Langdon & Lady arrived here. He tells me Gen. Washington in a Letter to Gen. Heath expresses great Surprise at the Evacuation of Ticonderoga, as it was garrisoned with five Thous<sup>d</sup> Troops well found:—and puts sundry Interrogations upon the Matter—as *have I been deceived* &c?—implying not only great Dissatisfaction, but strong Apprehension of &c. Indeed D<sup>r</sup> Langdon & Mr. Stevens of Kittery just from B<sup>n</sup> say it is so universally believed that the place was given up by Treachery, that there is found but one Man to defend G. Sinclair & he is a Scotchman as is S<sup>t</sup> Clair. The Presid<sup>t</sup> says, that of the Generals present, Gen. Poor & the French Gen. Fermoy were against it, Gen. Patterson & S<sup>t</sup> Clair for it & phps G. Wayne—but it was to the Dissatisfaction of the whole Army.

27. Ldsday. D<sup>r</sup> Langdon preached for me all day . . . I admitted 4 psons into full Communion in the Chh, viz. Elisha Hill, Jacob Walden & Abigail his Wife, & Mary, the wife of Michael Whidden. After which I baptized Jacob Treadwell, & Anna Children of Jacob Walden & Abigail his Wife. Then I read a Proclamation for a public Fast thro' this State on 7<sup>th</sup> August next issued by the Assembly. I then propounded Seth Walker & Lydia Lewis . . .

28. D<sup>r</sup> Langdon understands all the Apocalypse!—This Even<sup>g</sup> I married Henry Williams Resident in Portsmouth & Alice Lewis. . .

Value of *Exports* for parliament's Inspection from Xmas 1762 to Xmas 1773 from that part of Great Britain called England to those American Colonies under Disgrace.

| Colonies stiled by the Scotch <i>rebelleions</i> . | fr. Xmas 1762<br>to<br>Xmas. 1763 | 1764.     | 1765.     | 1766.     | 1767.     | 1768.     | 1769.     | 1770.     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Carolina . . . . .                                 | £250,132                          | 305,808   | 334,709   | 296,732   | 244,093   | 289,868   | 306,600   | 146,273   |
| New England . . . . .                              | 258,854                           | 459,765   | 451,299   | 409,642   | 406,081   | 419,797   | 207,993   | 394,451   |
| New Providence . . . . .                           |                                   | 2,808     | 4,227     | 15,085    | 14,986    | 6,752     | 6,682     | 6,660     |
| New York . . . . .                                 | 238,560                           | 515,416   | 382,349   | 330,829   | 417,957   | 482,930   | 74,918    | 475,991   |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup> . . . . .                     | 284,152                           | 435,191   | 363,224   | 327,314   | 371,830   | 432,107   | 199,909   | 134,881   |
| Virginia & Maryland . . . . .                      | 555,391                           | 515,192   | 383,224   | 372,548   | 437,628   | 475,954   | 488,362   | 717,782   |
|                                                    | 1,587,089                         | 2,234,180 | 1,919,176 | 1,752,150 | 1,892,575 | 2,107,408 | 1,284,464 | 1,875,438 |

| Colonies stiled by the Scotch <i>rebelleions</i> . | 1771.     | 1772.     | 1773.     |
|----------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
|                                                    | Inclusive | one Mill  | profits.  |
| Carolina . . . . .                                 | £409,169  | 449,610   | 344,159   |
| New England . . . . .                              | 1,420,119 | 824,830   | 527,055   |
| New Providence . . . . .                           |           | 1,564     | 2,132     |
| New York . . . . .                                 | 653,621   | 343,970   | 289,214   |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup> . . . . .                     | 728,744   | 507,909   | 426,448   |
| Virginia & Maryland . . . . .                      | 920,326   | 793,910   | 328,904   |
| Georgia . . . . .                                  | 70,493    | 92,406    | 62,932    |
|                                                    | 4,706,768 | 3,375,901 | 2,219,000 |

Total of 8 years Exp<sup>ts</sup> . . . £14,652,480  
Profits at 12 per cent . . . 1,758,297

£16½ Millions  
to which Ten Mill. next 3 y. add.

Tot. 3 y. . . . . £10,301,669  
16,410,777

£26,712,416 sterling

Twenty-six Mill. in 11 years; of which the Average  
for one year is £2,428,401.

## Value of Imports for Parliamentary Inspection.

| Colonies stiled by the Scotch <i>rebellious</i> . | 1763.     | 1764.     | 1765.     | 1766.   | 1767.     | 1768.     | 1769.   | 1770.   |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|-----------|---------|---------|
| Carolina                                          | £282,366  | 341,727   | 385,918   | 291,519 | 395,027   | 508,108   | 387,114 | 278,907 |
| N. Engl                                           | 74,815    | 88,157    | 145,819   | 141,733 | 128,207   | 148,375   | 129,353 | 148,011 |
| N. Provid.                                        | 6,438     | 4,436     | 4,871     | 4,585   | 4,487     | 2,523     | 4,435   | 6,387   |
| N. York                                           | 53,988    | 53,697    | 54,959    | 67,020  | 61,422    | 87,115    | 73,466  | 69,882  |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup>                              | 38,228    | 36,258    | 25,148    | 26,851  | 37,641    | 59,406    | 26,111  | 28,109  |
| Virg. & Maryld                                    | 642,294   | 559,408   | 505,671   | 460,754 | 437,926   | 406,048   | 361,892 | 435,994 |
|                                                   | 1,098,129 | 1,083,683 | 1,122,386 | 992,462 | 1,064,710 | 1,211,575 | 982,371 | 966,390 |

| Colonies stiled by the Scotch <i>rebellious</i> . | 1771.     | 1772.     | 1773.     |
|---------------------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Carolina                                          | £420,311  | 425,923   | 456,513   |
| N. Engl                                           | 150,318   | 126,265   | 124,624   |
| N. Provid.                                        | 7,837     | 5,817     | 3,379     |
| N. York                                           | 95,875    | 82,707    | 76,246    |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup>                              | 31,615    | 29,133    | 36,652    |
| Virg. & Maryld                                    | 577,848   | 528,404   | 589,803   |
|                                                   | 1,283,867 | 1,191,249 | 1,287,217 |

Total 11 years Imports, 12 $\frac{1}{3}$  Mill. £12,291,039

Freight Insurance &amp; profit @ 12 p. c. 1,474,924

13,765,963

Average 1 year £1,251,451.



## Exports from Engld only, to the West Indies &amp; Imports.

|                                | Exports.            | Imports.    |
|--------------------------------|---------------------|-------------|
| Xmas 1762 to 1763 . . .        | £1,149,590 . . .    | £3,268,479  |
| 1764 . . . . .                 | 918,475 . . . . .   | 2,467,485   |
| 1765 . . . . .                 | 1,029,277 . . . . . | 2,298,039   |
| 1766 . . . . .                 | 1,041,194 . . . . . | 2,833,198   |
| 1767 . . . . .                 | 1,057,847 . . . . . | 2,721,226   |
| 1768 . . . . .                 | 1,188,620 . . . . . | 2,991,472   |
| 1769 . . . . .                 | 1,274,951 . . . . . | 2,792,172   |
| 1770 . . . . .                 | 1,277,577 . . . . . | 3,219,126   |
| 1771 . . . . .                 | 1,155,654 . . . . . | 2,756,555   |
| 1772 . . . . .                 | 1,384,279 . . . . . | 3,371,102   |
| 1773 . . . . .                 | 1,280,897 . . . . . | 2,800,577   |
| Tot. 11 years . . . .          | 12,758,361 . . . .  | 31,519,428  |
| Profit 12 p. ct. . . .         | 1,531,003 . . . .   | 3,782,330   |
|                                | £14,289,364         | £35,301,758 |
| Aver <sup>a</sup> 1 y. . . . . | 1,299,033 . . . .   | 3,209,250   |

Rem. 1. We see how the British Merchants represent that excepting Carol. & Virg. the Ball<sup>a</sup> of Trade to the Continent is against them. They would represent it as a true state of Trade that they send out a quarter or half a Million to N. York & are remitted from thence, but 50 or 60 Thou<sup>d</sup>. As if a Trade thus circumstanced could support itself. 2. They would represent that the Return of West India Trade, confessedly beneficial, is only the produce of Exports thither: together with the Rents of W. Ind. Estates belonging to Residentiaries in Engld. But it is well known that the Planters draw Bills on their own Cargoes to full Amount. 3. The Truth of the Case is this, the Continental Merchant by a circuitous Trade of Lumber & Slaves, remits to London by way of the W. Indies, eno' to ballance what the Continent seems to fall short in Remittances: The whole American Commerce (monopolized by Britain) must be considered collectively. Thus for 11 years

|                                                           |           |          |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|-----------|----------|
| The whole Exp <sup>t</sup> to Cont. & W Ind.              | . . . . . | 41 Mill. |
| The whole Imp <sup>t</sup> from both                      | . . . . . | 49 Mill. |
| Aver <sup>a</sup> 1 y. Exports—less— $3\frac{3}{4}$ Mill. |           |          |
| Do . . Imp.—more than $4\frac{1}{2}$ Mill.                |           |          |

Here we see the Fallacy of that Pretension of the Merchants that they make but 12  $\text{p}$  cent profits. For after allow<sup>d</sup> this 12  $\text{p}$  cent; still the true Ratio of Trade is 41 Million Exports & 49 Mill. actual Imports, which is a Profit of 20  $\text{p}$  cent. added to 12  $\text{p}$

cent. makes a Total Profit of 32  $\frac{2}{3}$  cent to the English Merchants. Rem. 4. This is only for Engld. To get the Idea of the whole Britannic Commerce with America, we must consider above a Million a year from Scotld., of w<sup>c</sup> one house only in Glasgow exported 800 Thous<sup>d</sup>  $\frac{2}{3}$  annum—and phps as much for Irel<sup>d</sup>. But estimate both these one Third, the Total Britannic Commerce to America may be nearest six Millions per ann. returning actually seven or 8 Mill. in the year, & generat<sup>s</sup> a still Debt of Mill. on Interest in America. Rem. 5. The State for Jamaica—half a Mill. Exports and  $1\frac{1}{4}$  Mill. Imports—. Rem. 6. The Brit. Merch<sup>ts</sup> had over exported to the Continent to Am<sup>o</sup> of  $4\frac{3}{4}$  Mill. the year; of w<sup>c</sup> N England took  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Million. And it seems to have been providentially ordered that in the last three years the Exports hither was double the usual Quantity, or as much as in the six preced<sup>g</sup> years. So that before the War we may be supposed to have laid up Goods for three years: while the W. Ind. Exports continued nearly the same. Rem. 7. If it should be found that America at its Dismemberment from Great Brit. was indebted Nine Million, yet she has fully paid G. B.

29. & 30. In Comp<sup>a</sup> with D<sup>r</sup> Langdon.

31. Various & contradictory Accounts as to Manly. He is most probably taken. This day D<sup>r</sup> Langdon returns. He considers the Epistles of Paul as Systematic connected chains of Reasoning, esp<sup>y</sup> his Epistle to the Romans, which he intirely comprehends, at least there are no great Difficulties remaining: and so the Epistle to the Hebrews. I conceive S<sup>t</sup> Pauls Writings like those of Daniel full of inspired Truth—but unconnected. The President has some peculiar Ideas in Theology. He is no Socinian. The Soul that suffered in the Body of Christ was not a human Soul, nor was it the Essential Deity, but the *λογος* the first born of every Creature, a distinct Intelligence from that of Jehovah, but intimately united with Deity, so that God is in him. The original State of this World was such that both the Vegetable & Animal World were subject to Mutation, Revolution, Death: particularly that all Animals would after a Term die, & Man among the rest. This was the natural state. But G<sup>d</sup> promised Adam in Paradise an Exemption from Death, if he obeyed; but if he disobeyed he shd die, that is be left to the Course of Nature. This Death, Adam understood to be a cessation of Being: it was not a Futurity & Perpetuity of Misery & Suffering. It really would have been

Annihilation, had it not been for the Purposes of Grace. And so his Posterity had no concern in his sin upon the first Covenant or Command. Least of all was it a part of Adams Penalty that he should derive *Guilt & corrupt Nature* to his offspring. And so he was not in this sense originally a federal Head. But upon Gods purposing to continue Adam in Existence for the purpose of Grace, he then became the natural Head of his Posterity : and as the Sentence of Death was not reversed, he became a federal head to the purpose of bringing his Posterity into a World under a natural state of animal Mortality, instead of that exemption from this natural Mortality promised to Adam & tho' not promised to his seed yet would have probably been granted them also. Hence Adam is & becomes a federal Head (if not before, yet) after the Fall to all his Posterity, so that thereby they are subject to the Death of the Body—& so in Adam all die. Born into a state of Sin, Temptation & Mortality, they all sin & the World lieth in Wickedness and deserve future as well as present Punishment. God was disposed from the Benignity of his Nature to shew Mercy : but it was necess<sup>y</sup> for the Dignity of his Gov<sup>t</sup> that he should shew a Testimony of his Abhorrence of Sin. This was done in the sufferings of the Mediator—thro' whom God is reconciling the World. Infants dying such are liable only to Death of the Body—Adults dying in Sin to be punished beyond the Grave. I did not well see his Ideas of Christs Atonem<sup>t</sup> & Satisfaction—He held X<sup>s</sup> suffer<sup>s</sup> vicarious & beyond those of the Martyrs, & so as to be a Testimony of G<sup>d</sup>s Displeasure against sin, but not equal to the suffer<sup>s</sup> due to sin, the Dignity of the person render<sup>s</sup> a less suffer<sup>s</sup> an adequate & sufficient Testimony against sin. But I did perceive that in his Mind Satisfaction arose from & consisted in the Created Nature of J. C. being upheld by Omnipotence and so enabled in a few hours to sustain a Load of intense Woe *equal to the Misery* which lay upon the Elect—and yet he seemed to conceive a suffer<sup>s</sup> laid upon him above all the pains of natural Death (i. e. of bodily Death even by the Torture of Crucifixion) something to testify the divine Displeasure against sin.

The Doctor was (like Dr Watts) I suppose originally initiated in Calvinism, & because in the first of his Ministry of the Connexion of Mr. Whitefield & continues so to this day. An extensive Acquaint<sup>ance</sup> & a Disposition to converse upon & discuss every subject obliged him to meet the Objections both of Deists, Arians,



Arminians, Socinians. Their Artillery carried Metal rather too heavy for his Understanding. However he always appeared to have stood the Attack, yet in many places was giving Ground. Like a generous & noble Mind he entered with spirit into the Field of FREE INQUIRY—he cleared *much* Ground & settled many points profoundly, justly, masterly & like an enlightened Divine—and as to *much* also, he is *left plunged in unfinished Researches*. Guyse & Doddridge he loves & esteems; but Taylor, whom he renounces, I think, has got the ascendancy & greatest hold of his Reasoning Powers. And yet his Notions on Original Sin are neither Lockes nor Taylors, but D<sup>r</sup> ——— whose Treatise on that subject is unpublished.

When D<sup>r</sup> Watts set out in Life he was clearly a Calvinist especially on the *Div<sup>ty</sup> of X, original sin, Atonem<sup>t</sup> & Justification by Christs imputed Right., Regeneration, special grace in Conversion, &c.* His first publications abound with these Things. When the Arian Controversy got hold of the Dissenters in the public cause of the Rev. Mr. Pierce of Exeter about 1720: D<sup>r</sup> Watts entered the Arian Researches, *became plunged as to the real Divinity of J. C.,* as appears in the follow<sup>g</sup> Publications of the last 20 years of his Life. But tho' he was an Arian on the Divinity of Christ, yet he never relinquished any of the other evangelical Doctrines, the real vicarious Satisfaction even plenary Atonem<sup>t</sup>, with Justific<sup>a</sup> by Christs Righteousness &c.—One may perceive the same Thing in *Seeds Sermons*. The *Ruin & Recov<sup>d</sup>* retains the Deriv<sup>a</sup> of *Guilt & Corruption* from Adam—and this is the Augustinian Notion of Original Sin. D<sup>r</sup> Langdon's Plunges have a pretty extensive influence into his whole Theology.

I preached my sacramental Lecture, D<sup>r</sup> Haven's Chh & my own being present together. . . . In the Even<sup>g</sup> I married two couples viz. John Castle of Greenwich in Old Englnd now resident in Portsmouth & Anna Trickey Widow; also Benjamin Quint & Mary Trott.

#### August.

1. Viewing Portsmouth Records, A.D. 1640 May 25<sup>th</sup> about 20 settlers at Strawberry Bank signed an Instrument giving Chapel, Parsonage House & about 30 Acres of Land to two Chh. Wardens & their Successors as Feoffees in Trust for the Use of the Incumbent Minister: constituting Mr. Richard Gibson Minister; vesting the Right of Patronage & Presentation in the Parishioners.

This was an Episcopal Foundation. Mr. Gibson soon return<sup>e</sup> to Engld, the Plant<sup>n</sup> had only occasional preach<sup>e</sup> for many years. By 1660 they were about 88 Families. Before this they had one Mr. Brown<sup>1</sup> a Preacher there who left them about 1655. In 1656 they sent to Mr. Sam<sup>l</sup> Dudlow (Dudley)<sup>2</sup> & invited him to be their Minister offer<sup>e</sup> him a Salary of £80. I think he never preached there. In 1657 they gave Mr. Worster<sup>3</sup> a Call. The next year the Town sent for Mr. Joshua Moodey<sup>4</sup> a Fellow of Harv. College who came, & Feb. 14, 1658 they voted him a Maintenance by Subscription; 86 Subscribers. March 5, 1659/60 called by Vote of the whole Town to be Minister. He settled here, but was not yet ordained, & no Chh gathered. He subsisted by liberal subscription till 1671, when the Chh. was gathered. That year a List of the Names of the whole Town was 170 of which all subscribed but 30—the subscript<sup>n</sup> amounted to £90 that year. In 1677 they came to a Rate for the Minister £137—viz. Strawb<sup>y</sup> Bank £88.6.6. Great Isl<sup>d</sup>. £49. The Congreg<sup>a</sup> now perhaps about 150 Families, of which one third at G<sup>t</sup> Isl<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Moodey was very useful & happy with his Flock from 1658 to 1684, when Gov. Cranfield imprisoned & silenced him for refusing to administer the L<sup>ds</sup> Supper to himself & his Council, which the Gov. absurdly required to be done by the Liturgy & by Mr. Moodey tho' not episcopally ordained. After thirteen weeks Imprisonment he was released but forbidden to preach. But the first Chh. in Boston inviting him, he removed & labored there with Mr. Allin till 1692. Then he returned to Portsm<sup>o</sup> & resumed his pastoral Labours there till 1697, when he died at Boston on a Visit æt. 65. D<sup>r</sup> Cotton Mather preached his funeral Sermon from Acts vi, 15. His Indictment & Trial by Gov. Cranfields Order was Feb. 5, 1683/4. He wrote Four Thousand Sermons. At his Return 1692 a Rate List consisted of

120 Names at Strawb<sup>y</sup> Bank

68 at Greenland

43 at Great Isl<sup>d</sup>

231 Families under Mr. Moodeys Care. But about this time di-

<sup>1</sup> James Brown, from Newbury, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> Son of Governor Thomas Dudley of Massachusetts. He was settled at Exeter, N. H., as minister in 1650 and remained there until his death in 1683-4.

<sup>3</sup> William Worcester, minister of Salisbury, Mass., from 1639 to his death in 1663.

<sup>4</sup> Harvard Coll. 1653. See Sibley's *Harvard Graduates*, i, 367-80.

vided into 3 Parishes. So that his congreg<sup>a</sup> after his Return might be 120 Fam<sup>rs</sup>. In a seating of the Meetinghouse 1694 there were 256 Names of Adults, Men & Women—which inclusive Boys & Girls under æt. 14, the age mentioned, might make a usual assembly of 200 Actual Attendants. Rev. Nath<sup>l</sup> Rogers<sup>1</sup> was ord. 1699, & exhibited a very excellent character. On his Tomb stone in Portsm<sup>o</sup> is this Inscription—

Hic sepelitur Rev. NATHANAEL ROGERS A.M.

Jesu Christi Minister fidelis ;

Prosapiâ Studiis evangelicis devotâ

Oriundus ;

Ingenio, Eruditione, Integritate

Moribusque suavissimis

Valde Ornatus ;

Benevolentiae, Fidei, Pietatis,

Exemplar illustre ;

Theologiæ consultissimus

Concionator præclarus

Ecclesiæ Pastor vigilantissimus.

Natus est Ipsvici 7. <sup>mo</sup> Calendas Martii

MDCLXIX.

In Jesu Sinum efflavit animam

5<sup>o</sup> Nonas Octobris

MDCCXXIII

זכר צדיק לברכה

This forenoon the Town thrown into considerable Solitude. Major Gaines from Exeter bro't a Copy of Gen. Putnams Letter to Gov. Trumbull dated Peekskill 25 July advising that the preceded Even<sup>d</sup> was bro't to him an intercepted Letter of G. Howes to Burgoyne inform<sup>d</sup> that he *designs for B—n* :—that he shd have 6000 Troops at Kingsbridge under Gen. Smith & Gen. Clinton. Gen. Putnam speaks of the Enemy sail<sup>d</sup> from the Hook & stand<sup>d</sup> directly out to sea. A copy was inclosed by the Presid<sup>t</sup> of Mass. Council to the Presid<sup>t</sup> of N Hampshire in a Letter of 30<sup>th</sup> July which says—“by a Lett. this Morn<sup>d</sup> recd fr. G. Glover we learn that the Enemy's Fleet *sailed on the 23<sup>d</sup> Inst.* & stood directly out to sea & consisted of *One hundred & seventy sail.*” This Morn<sup>d</sup> an Express arrived from Ipswitch advising that yesterday III o'clock

<sup>1</sup> Harvard Coll. 1687. See Sibley's *Harvard Graduates*, iii, 379-82.



P.M. at C. Anne a fleet of above 100 sail was discovered off there stand<sup>s</sup> northwards. G. Putnam writes "The Enemys Motions have been such as would perplex the greatest General to determine their Intention. The Parade they have made towards the South, the Vessels going Eastw<sup>d</sup> in the Sound, & sundry other Manouvres evidently calculated to decoy. However their Motions will be as strictly watched as possible & most closely attended to." He adds "Gen. Wash.—considers the — intercepted Letter as a Confirmation of their Southern Destination, & the Disposition of the Army are ordered accordingly." This day the Fleet 9 days from N York.

Yesterday an Enemys Frigate chased one of our Prizes ashore at Rye & retook her. Our two Frigates prepared to sail this Morn<sup>g</sup> —but no Wind.

2. Rather uncertain as to the Fleet off Cape Ann. Report of a successful Repulse at Fort Ann.

3. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Eph. iii, 17-19, & administered the Communion of the Lords Supper to 64 Communicants. P.M. I Jn<sup>o</sup> ii, 5.

4. I catechised 94 Boys & 28 Girls. Total 122 children. Reported or conjectured that the Fleet is gone up Delaware.

5. In Comp<sup>a</sup> with Rev. Dr. Whitaker of Salem. In the Even<sup>g</sup> I married Capt. Cullum<sup>1</sup> of the *Ranger* Man o'War to Miss Margaret Fosse. Militia flocking down to the Sea coasts.

6. . . . . I rec<sup>d</sup> a Lett. dated Provid. 18 July with additions "Monday (22<sup>d</sup>) 8 o'clock A.M. an Express fr. the Committee at N London informs that yesterday (July 21) 27 Sail, 25 of w<sup>c</sup> were large, were stand<sup>s</sup> for R. Isld., & 3 more appeared some distance West of them. Another Express fr. Major Gen. Spencer who is on the southern shore of this State inform<sup>s</sup> that yesterdy late in the Aft. 30 or 40 sail were seen fr. Watch Hill stand<sup>s</sup> East. 7 o'clock P.M. a Gent. directly from Gen. Spencer at Pt. Judith—None of the Fleet to be seen."

Remark 1. G. Spencer dont say he saw the fleet. In fact it was Col. Noyes of West<sup>y</sup> informed the fleet off Watch Hill. But as a like Acc<sup>o</sup> came fr. N London, it is certain there was one. 2. But a doz. or 14 got into Newp. [3 ships got into Newp<sup>t</sup> 22<sup>d</sup> July.] 3.

<sup>1</sup> David Cullum, who made a fortune by privateering. This was his second marriage, to the handsome daughter of the innkeeper with whom he lived. See Brewster's *Rambles about Portsmouth*, ii, 108-10.

As G. Spencer did not see them at P<sup>t</sup> Judith they must have stood off to the southw<sup>d</sup> after pass<sup>g</sup> Watch Hill. 4. The Coincidence of the New London & West<sup>y</sup> acc<sup>o</sup> in 30 sail evince that the Number. 5. It seems above half evanished. Gov. Trumb. advises that a Deserter says this Fleet were light Transports bound for Europe. A vessel arriv<sup>g</sup> at Bedford saw 21 Sail stand<sup>g</sup> S.E. Now the whole is Stratagem. Necessary 100 Transp<sup>ts</sup> shd return to Engl<sup>d</sup>: they were got ready at the Time of *General Movements*; & made use of to appear as a part of that. Blind! They have alarmed the whole Coast of New Engld., & set us all marching down to the Sea-side—they have sent off their Transp<sup>t</sup> to Engl<sup>d</sup> for Fall Stores—they have gone to Philad<sup>a</sup> with their main body of say 8 or 10,000 leav<sup>g</sup> say 4 or 5000 at N. York & Kings Bridge. I think it a complicated & masterly piece of Generalship. They may perhaps get Philad<sup>a</sup> before G. Washington can reach there. G. Putnam's Lett. of 25 July fr. Peek's Kill reached Portsm<sup>o</sup> 31 July i. e. in 6 days. Esopus print of 28 July speaks of the first Div. land<sup>g</sup> at New Castle: will the Distance forbid this?

Mass. State are send<sup>g</sup> one sixth of their Militia Northward.

7. Gen. FAST thro' the State of N. Hampshire, by Authority. A.M. I preached on 2 Chron. xx, 11-14. P.M. Rev. Mr. Stevens of Kittery preached for me, & I preached for D<sup>r</sup> Haven on Deut. v, 29. A vessel in at Falm<sup>o</sup> which left Curacoa 16<sup>th</sup> July advises that the Spaniards had seized Pensacola. It is said that Gen. Wash. Army are marching for Philadelphia in 3 divisions, viz. one Div. under Gen. Sullivan, one under Gen Green, Green is the General whom Washington most relies upon in the whole Army—and I believe the Congress have their Eye upon him as a Successor to G. Wash. in Case of Accident—altho' both Schuyler, Lee & Putnam are before him.

8. Very hot. Thermo<sup>o</sup> 88. Reading Harringtons Oceana. Judge Parker asked me for a copy of yesterdays Sermon for the Press. Others joyned the Request.

9. This day excessive hot. At Noon in a North shade the Therm stood at 96½ that is above Blood Heat. . . . .

This Aft. I rode to Exeter to exchange with Mr. Mansf<sup>d</sup> where a Lett. this day arrived; being one written by Gen. Wash. to Gen. Putnam at Peek's Kill, dated at Chester between Philad<sup>a</sup> & New Castle the first Instant; so that he was arrived so far by that time. The General advises that the Enemy had made a surprizing Move-

ment, & left the Delaware, from which they had sailed the preceed-day stand<sup>s</sup> eastwards: that it was in his opinion most probable they aimed at the Heights in the Highlands & the West part of Connecticut; that he had ordered Gen. Sullivans Division to return & cross the North River: that he desired G. Putnam to write to Gov. Trumbull to press upon him the Import<sup>a</sup> of assembling the whole Militia to withstand the Enemy till the continental Army could arrive. It is said by Report they are returned to the Hook.

The Northern Army has retreated to Saratoga. Mass. had *seven* Reg<sup>ts</sup> in it & N. Hamp. *three*, when Ticond. surrendered. The Hamp. Reg<sup>ts</sup> were designed to make two Thous<sup>d</sup>; it is said they never mustered fifteen hundred—say then that actually in Service under S<sup>t</sup> Clair they were but 1200. Mass. not so full but prob<sup>y</sup>. 2000 mak<sup>s</sup> the 3300 S<sup>t</sup> Clair speaks of. These are privates. There were *fourteen* Officers to a Comp<sup>a</sup> say 12 Off. & ten Comp<sup>a</sup> to a Reg<sup>t</sup>. i. e. 120 officers to a Reg<sup>t</sup>. There was a full Complem<sup>t</sup> of Officers i. e. 1200 & it was said 1500 Officers of all sorts. Two or 300 of these might be loitering & dancing at Boston & recruiting & otherwise absent. Say offieers there 1000 or 1200 + 3300 privates make 4500 Continental; add to these 900 Militia which got in there a few days before the Evacuation—gives a Total of the Garison of about FIVE THOUSAND & AN HALF. Which accord<sup>s</sup> to their own acc<sup>o</sup> had provision for a Week & Flour for a Month. And yet S<sup>t</sup> Clair surrendered the Fort to fifteen Reg<sup>ts</sup> making probably Three Thousand Men.

10. Ldsdy. I preached at Exeter for the Rev. Mr. Mansfield . . . . . and baptized a Child there. The usage in this Chh is similar to that of Hingham from whence some of the original Settlers came. They neither own the Cov<sup>t</sup> nor make Profession of the Faith for the Baptism of Children. But all that is requisite is that one of the Parents has been baptized & is free from Scandal. This was a Firstborn Child, & but a little above seven months from the Marriage. I was at some difficulty. Had the parents had children baptized before the way had been clear. But I was told that if the Minister was satisfied all was well. I therefore discoursed the young man as to his Understand<sup>s</sup> & Belief of the fund<sup>a</sup> Doctrines of the Being of a G<sup>d</sup> & his Character, the lost state of man, & the way of Recovery, the Div<sup>y</sup> & Atonm<sup>t</sup> of X, the nature of Repentance, the Found<sup>a</sup> of Hope in the Right. of X, Regener<sup>a</sup>, a holy Life & the Retributions of Eternity. He gave



me satisfaction as to these, so far at least as to a tolerable doctrinal Understanding of them, and then promised he would make it his Endeav<sup>r</sup> to live by the Grace of God correspond<sup>t</sup> to such a Faith. Then I told him I would baptize his child, which I did in the publick congregation. Was I to do it again I would make him covenant briefly but publickly to bring up his Child in the Christian Faith. Afterwards convers<sup>e</sup> with one of the Chh. of advanced years, he told me that Rev. Mr. Odlin sen.<sup>1</sup> always said publickly to the Parents at baptizing a first child "you covenant & promise to bring up this Child in the Nurture & Admonition of the Lord"—this he never repeated but afterwards baptized all their subsequent children. But the late Mr. Odlin took the Engagement in his study. But the practice of own<sup>g</sup> the Cov<sup>t</sup> or assent<sup>e</sup> to a Declar<sup>a</sup> & Profess. of Faith, as in the Chhs in general, never took place in this Chh. I do not find any other Chh in the same Practice in this Vicinity. The Rev. Mr. Hobart practiced so in the Chh of Hingham from its Found<sup>a</sup> in 1635. This day Isaac æt. 14.

11. I visited the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rogers & Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Coffin. And returned to Portsmouth.

12. This Afternoon I married Isaac Nute and Elizabeth Currel both of Dover.

14. Dined with Col. Whipple. He shewed me the Articles of Confederation of the United States, first drafted by a Committee, and then were received by a Committee of the whole Congress but not passed, but printed only for every Member to have a Copy for his own Consider<sup>a</sup>. He might shew it but suffer no Copies. Two or 3 Articles had been considered in Congress as Congress & acted upon. And they were proceed<sup>e</sup> upon the rest, when Col. Whipple came away. The substance of it is—that the internal Policy & Gov<sup>t</sup> of each State shall be left to themselves—that the Congress be annual & elected by the States, sitting the first Monday in Novemb<sup>r</sup> annually, no Member to be chosen above 3 years in seven, a Majority of States make a Vote, in admitt<sup>g</sup> any future State accord<sup>g</sup> to the Union, there are to be nine states concurring, except<sup>e</sup> as to Canada which is declared received if she desires it:—That Congress have all Matters & Author<sup>y</sup> to act upon them, i. e. all matters respect<sup>g</sup> the common & gen. Int. of the States, War & Peace, Levying Armies, coining

<sup>1</sup> John Odlin (Harvard Coll. 1702) was settled here from 1706 to his death in 1754; his son Woodbridge Odlin was his colleague and successor (1743-76).

Money, issue<sup>s</sup> of Bills on Continental Credit & order<sup>s</sup> the proportions of them to the States, appoint<sup>s</sup> all General & Field Officers for a Continental Army; all the Navy & Maritime Affairs. &c &c. That there be a COUNCIL of State consist<sup>s</sup> of one Delegate for each State. In this Council resides the executive Administration & Government, & to act in the Recess of Congress as well as when sitting. . . . .

16. Terrâ fol. Æthere sublatâ hodie.<sup>1</sup>

17. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Mat. xiii, 23, . . . . . P.M. Ps. xxxvi, 7. After Sermon Seth Walker made Profession of Religion & entered into Cov<sup>t</sup> with God, and Lydia Lewis joyned the Chh. in full Communion—both assented to the same Profession of Faith. I then baptized William Brown the son of Widow Lewis, & Seth the son of Seth Walker.

18. Last Sat<sup>y</sup> Eveng. Mr. Oliver Whipple arrived here. He left Boston Thursdy, when an Express from Gov. Trumb. advised that the Division of L<sup>d</sup> Howes Fleet which returned to the Hook, had departed, that the Fleet were hovering some at Delaware & some at Chespeak—& that Gen. Wash.'s Army which had returned to Amboy, were again on their way to Philadelphia. It seems pfectly uncertain where the En<sup>y</sup> pitch. Letter from Gov. Wentworth at N. Y. just received here by his Friends—say Cap<sup>t</sup> Woodb<sup>y</sup> Langdon is in Custody & will be treated as We treat Col. Holland the Money-maker. Mr. W—tells me it is expected Overtures be made by L<sup>d</sup> Howe this Fall. viz. G. Brit. acknowl- edge our Indep<sup>y</sup>, propose an Alliance, & Monopoly of our Trade, & Security of all property on both sides.

This Aft. News that a consid. Action has happened at & about F<sup>t</sup> Stanwix between our Garison there & about 1000 of the Enemy 8<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>—& that we were succesful.

20. At Noon a flying Report in T<sup>o</sup> from Exeter that L<sup>d</sup> & Gen. Howe had gone up N<sup>o</sup> River & were at Albany. This day Ruth ætat 12.

21. . . . . It is said that the beging. of this M<sup>o</sup> Aug<sup>t</sup> the North- ern Army between F<sup>t</sup> Edw<sup>d</sup> & Alb<sup>y</sup> were Three Thous<sup>d</sup> Continen- tals & about fifteen Thous<sup>d</sup> (say five or 6 Th.) Militia.

The Adress of the En<sup>y</sup> has succeeded so far with the Indians that they may perhaps be *two hundred* in the Enemys Brigade on

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Stiles seems to have been dabbling in alchemy; cf. Diary for July 18 and Aug. 22 of this year.

the Stanwix Quarter, & 500 with Gen. Burgoyne at Ticonderoga. Col. Long<sup>1</sup> of Portsm<sup>o</sup> was taken at the Evacu<sup>a</sup> of Ti; he is returned here, & says he was shewn them there & was told they were *five hundred* and were chiefly of the *Cold* Indians i. e. of the Northern high Latitudes & were all naked. Rem<sup>a</sup> 1. Hence Gen. Carleton was unsuccessful with the Six Nations & the Canadian Indians who better knew the Vengeance of America. 2. Our En<sup>y</sup>s make use of the most savage & cruel of the Indian Tribes against us. Shews nothing to bad for them to attempt. How cruel their Malice! "Flectere si nequeo superos, Acheronta movebo."

The Cherokee Indians made Peace with S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> & Georgia 20<sup>th</sup> May last after a sharp War, & in the Treaty surrendered to Car<sup>o</sup> & Geo. as conquered Lands on this side the Oconnee Mountain. But it seems the Nations about Hudsons Bay &c have not yet felt the Terror of our Arms. They are treasuring up Wrath & Humiliation.

22. . . A Letter circular from the Pres<sup>t</sup> of the State of Vermont dated 16 Inst., viz. last Sat<sup>y</sup> at Bennington, advises, that at that Time a Battle was fight<sup>s</sup> there between our forces under Gen. Starks & the Enemy—we repulsed them & took 4 or 500. The En<sup>y</sup>. re-enforced, & the Engag<sup>t</sup> renewed with Vigor. Call earnestly for the Help of the Militia. The good Lord send us Victory, or sanctify all Disappointments.

Exp<sup>t</sup> of Ebullition of Æther with Solution of silver in Aquafortis.

23. . . This Aft. at V<sup>h</sup> came in News of Gn. Starks' Victory in a Battle about 5 M. fr. Bennington last Saturday—It was printed & dispersed here by sunset.

24. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Ps. cxxx, 7. P.M. Col. i, 27, and baptized Samuel son of Sam<sup>l</sup> Ham & Wife. Read Dr. Gordons Sermon at Annivers<sup>y</sup> of Independ<sup>y</sup>.

25. This day my Daughter Polly æt. 10, born 1767. After Breakfast I measured my children, all of whom are now at home with me.

|          |          |                               |       |          |                 |
|----------|----------|-------------------------------|-------|----------|-----------------|
| Betsey   | — 5 feet | $\frac{1}{4}$ In <sup>o</sup> | Isaac | — 4 feet | $11\frac{1}{3}$ |
| Ezra     | — 5 —    | 9                             | Ruth  | — 4      | $10\frac{1}{4}$ |
| Kezia T. | — 5 —    | $1\frac{1}{2}$                | Polly | — 4      | 1               |
| Emilia   | — 5 —    | $1\frac{3}{4}$                |       |          |                 |

<sup>1</sup> For a sketch of Col. Peirse Long, see Brewster's *Rambles about Portsmouth*, i, 272-76.



I weighed a large Tooth which Rev Mr Macclure bro't from the Ohio & found it *fifty Ounces*. I measured it *seven Inches long on the Top* crupper part, upon which there were four masticating Rugæ  $1\frac{1}{2}$  & 2 Inc. apart, and three Lacunæ crossways  $\frac{3}{4}$  to one Inch deep. It measured *three inches & an half across the Top*. It stood Two Inches & half to Two Inches & three Quarters, above the Jaw. There remain above Three Inches of the Root, the rest being broken off—accord<sup>s</sup> to the Analogy of what is left the whole of the largest or principal Root was not less than six or seven Inches long—the other probably 4 Inch or more tho' now only  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Inc. left. From Top to bottom  $5\frac{1}{4}$  Inches. It is a Grinder Tooth of some great Animal, but whether an Elephant or Gyant, is a Question.<sup>1</sup>

26. Sat out on a Journey towards Cambridge.

28. GENERAL FAST thro' Massachusetts. I preached at Medford or Mystic, A.M. Deut. v, 29. P.M. II Chron. xx, 11.

29. Entered my son Ezra Senior Sophister in Harvard College.

31. Ldsdy. Kept Sabbath at Newbury, & preached at the Presb. chh. late Mr. Parsons's. A.M. Ephes. iii, 17-19. P.M. Rom. iii, 23-25, and baptized there Jenny Daughter of Isaac Noyes. Mr. Hopkins of Newport is preaching in that Congregation.

Return of the Army at Ticonderoga under Gen. Clinton dated June 28, 1777. Eight days before its Evacuation.

| 12 Reg'ts.                     | Total | Fit for duty & present. | Artillery.                                                                  |     |
|--------------------------------|-------|-------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|
| Col. Marshalls . . .           | 292   | of w <sup>c</sup> 126   | Officers . . . . .                                                          | 34  |
| Hales . . . . .                | 360   | 212                     | Non Comm. D <sup>o</sup> . . . . .                                          | 99  |
| Bradford . . . . .             | 333   | 265                     | Matrosses . . . . .                                                         | 303 |
| Scammells . . . . .            | 363   | 153                     | present . . . . .                                                           | 436 |
| Cilleys . . . . .              | 396   | 193                     | wanting 11.                                                                 |     |
| Jacksons . . . . .             | 85    | 45                      | Twelve Reg'ts, of w <sup>c</sup> 2 were 2 M <sup>o</sup> Men                |     |
| Brewers . . . . .              | 252   | 144                     | whose time expiring; & one                                                  |     |
| Francis . . . . .              | 420   | 206                     | Regt. Engineers &                                                           |     |
| Warners . . . . .              | 173   | 99                      | Artificers.                                                                 |     |
| Longs . . . . .                | 154   | 91                      | 10 Col., 11 L <sup>t</sup> Col., 10 Majors, 84 Cap <sup>t</sup> .,          |     |
| Leonard's Milit . . .          | 279   | 192                     | 169 Subs., 3 Chaplains, 10 Adjutants,                                       |     |
| Wells D <sup>o</sup> . . . . . | 309   | 197                     | 12 Qu <sup>r</sup> M <sup>rs</sup> , 7 Pay d <sup>o</sup> ., 10 Surgeons, 8 |     |
| Whitcombs Rangers .            | 35    | 19                      | Mates. Total, . . . . .                                                     | 334 |
| Lees D <sup>o</sup> . . . . .  | 23    | 23                      | Non Commissioned.                                                           |     |
| Baldwins Engineers &           |       |                         | Serjeants . . . . .                                                         | 296 |
| Artificers . . . . .           | 130   | 124                     | Drums & fifes . . . . .                                                     | 117 |
| Tot. R. & File                 | 3604  | 2089                    |                                                                             | 747 |

<sup>1</sup> From the description it is clear that this was the tooth of a mastodon.

|                                 |                                          |       |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------------------|-------|
| Again R. & File.                | On Furlough                              | 6     |
| Present fit for duty . . . 2089 |                                          | 3604  |
| Sick present . . . 532          | Wanting to complete — Serj <sup>ts</sup> | 66    |
| D <sup>o</sup> absent . . . 39  | Drums &c., 55; privates                  | 3506. |
| On Command . . . 937            | Total . . .                              | 3627  |

The preced<sup>g</sup> is exactly extracted from the general Return. Before the Evacu<sup>n</sup> Nine hundred Militia joyned them. I receive & state the Army thus—

|                                                      |              |
|------------------------------------------------------|--------------|
| Commiss. Officers . . . . .                          | 334          |
| Serj <sup>ts</sup> Drums & Fifes . . . . .           | 417          |
|                                                      | 747 Officers |
| Artillery . . . . .                                  | 436          |
| R. & File of w <sup>e</sup> only 45 absent . . . . . | 3687         |
| Add new arrived Militia . . . . .                    | 900          |
| Tot. of w <sup>e</sup> 5 or 600 sick . . . . .       | 5687         |

So the Effective Army above *Five Thousd* officers & privates in our Army at the Evacu<sup>n</sup> of Ticonderoga.

September.

7. Ldsday at Portsm<sup>n</sup> I preached A.M. on 1 Cor. xi, 28, and administered the Communion of the Lds. Supper to about 50 Communicants. P.M. Ps. xcvi, 1, 2, & baptized three Infants, Thomas, Timothy, & Ruth.<sup>1</sup> . . . . Account of Gen. Arnolds complete victory over the Division of the Enemy at & about Fort Stanwix. [The victory gained before Arnold's Arrival.]

8. Received Letters from Dighton with Account of the Death of the aged & venerable M<sup>r</sup> Nathanael Fisher the 31 of last month. He was 88 years old last April, born 1689. He had been ordained 1712 so in the Min<sup>y</sup> 65 years. In the Afternoon I catechised 117 children : 87 B. 30 Girls.

9. At sunrise died the Wife of the Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Haven<sup>2</sup> of this Town. By Letters from Dighton of 1<sup>st</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> I hear that the Enemy are supposed to be about three Thousd at Rhode Island. A Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Ellery a Member of Congress dated 29 Aug<sup>t</sup> informs me his Opinion that "the whole Number of the Troops under his (G.

<sup>1</sup> Thomas, son of Elizabeth & Peter Man ; Timothy, son of Timothy & Mary Ham ; Ruth, daughter of Robert & Ruth Ham.

<sup>2</sup> Mrs. Haven was Mehetabel, daughter of the Rev. Dr. Nathaniel Appleton, of Cambridge, Mass.

Howes' Command doth not exceed *Twelve Thousand* : 3000 of which G. Spencer says by the best Intell. are on Rh. Isld ; and 1700 it seems by a late paper are about N. York. So that upon this Calcul<sup>a</sup> he hath with him about *Seven Thousd* men. I suppose that the greatest N<sup>o</sup> of Troops he ever had under him did not exceed Twenty one Thousd : that of those 5000 at least have perished by Sickness ; 3000 at least have been killed by us, & about that number have been captivated. This would leave him but 10,000 if he had no Recruits. But I will allow him *a Thousd* Recruits this Spring & Summer, & an Error of 1000 in my Comput<sup>a</sup> where you please. Of the 12,000 he may possibly have, one sixth part are doubtless Invalids. Now, Sir, with his whole effective Force—what great Feats might he expect to perform against G. Wash. aided as he would be by a consid. number of Militia ? ”

This Evening I married Moses Ferren & Mary Dellan. The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Rogers of Exeter spent the Evening with me.

10. This day should be Commencem<sup>t</sup> at Yale College. It is the day of an annual Meeting of the Ministers of the C<sup>h</sup> of York ; they meet at the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Springs in Kittery, M<sup>r</sup> Hemenway to preach. I was invited, intended to have attended, but bad Weather prevents.

11. Went over to Kittery with Mr. Rogers & preached Mr. Stevens' Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lecture, Eph. iii, 17-19. Col. Bartlett<sup>1</sup> left Bennington last Saturday ; advises that there are 4000 chiefly Militia at Bennington under Gen. Lincoln and Gen. Starks ; that Gen. Gates had a Large Body [5000 Cont. & 2000 Militia], and Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> at Half Moon ; that a Movem<sup>t</sup> was to be made on Ldsdy—supposed that G. Lincoln & a Corps to attack Skeensboro. Gen. Gates and the main body attack the Enemy in front at Saratoga to Ft. Edwd. where Burgoyne's Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> are, & G. Starks with his corps [1000] to act between.—

The Eng. have indeed left Fort Stanwix, but without any Action with Gen. Arnold, whom Col. Bartlett saw at Half Moon. Col. Bartlett was sent from Exeter by the State Committee of Safety to report the State of the Northern Army. B<sup>r</sup> Stevens estimates Burgoyne's whole Army 12,000—and the whole Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> from Europe this year 5000, of w<sup>c</sup> 2000 for How & 3000 for Burgoyne. That Burgoyne had 5000 Regulars left last year + 3000 = 8000 Regulars, add about 4000 Canad<sup>s</sup> & Indians. If there-

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Josiah Bartlett, Signer of the Declaration of Independence.



fore we have only 5000 at Half Moon & 4000 at Bennington, he thinks we are in great danger. As to the Southern or Howe's Army he relies much on an acc<sup>o</sup> brot by a prisoner [Capt. of this Town], who left N. York a fortnight ago, landed at C. Ann in a flag, & arrived here this week, who reports that How sailed with 15,000 and left 12,000 behind, of which 7000 were Provincials—his whole Army being 27,000. Thus M<sup>r</sup> Stevens would estimate the Tot. of the Enemys Land Forces in America at about *Forty Thousand*. He credits the acc<sup>o</sup> this prisoner brot of Gen. Sullivan's Action on Staten Isld. viz. that the En<sup>y</sup> engaged him with about 3000—that Sullivan lost about 500 killed wounded & taken, of w<sup>c</sup> 170 killed—& Sullivan killed wounded and took of the En<sup>y</sup> they acknowledge rather more. Mr. S—— relies upon our loos<sup>e</sup> 170 killed, because Capt. conversed with one of Sullivan's officers taken. G. Sullivan's acc<sup>o</sup> in his letter to his Brother is that he lost & left in the hands of the Eny. about 100—& captivated & brot off 300 of the Enemy. M<sup>r</sup> St. thinks we never reckon our Loss eno'.

Now my Estimate of the Enemy is this—the Canadian Army under Burgoyne 5000 in the Ticonderoga Division; & 1000 in the Stanwix Division, Total *Six Thousand*: of which 2000 Canadians, Tories & Indians.—Gen. Howes grand Army about double the Canadian Army—and that the Force he carried with him to Chesepeak may be 8 or 9000. The whole Amer. Army about *Twenty Thousand*. It is said by those who estimate lowest, that G. Washington has 12,000 Regular Troops with him at & about Philadelphia & 8000 Militia—that there are 4000 at Peek's Kill, 9000 in our northern Army, and say 2000 at B<sup>o</sup> & Rh. Isld.; Total 35,000: and inclusive of Troops employed all along thro' all the States, probably *Fifty Thousand*. This estimate however is very cursory & inaccurate.

A Deserter reported the Enys. Force left at N. York beging. of August, after Howes Departure with the fleet. He gave these Numbers.

#### HESSIANS UNDER GEN. SMITH A HESSIAN

|                                       |     |                                                 |
|---------------------------------------|-----|-------------------------------------------------|
| Col. Rhollers Reg <sup>t</sup>        | 250 | near Col. Cortlandt's 3 miles above Kingsbridge |
| 2 Hess <sup>n</sup> Reg <sup>ts</sup> | 600 |                                                 |
| 1 Reg <sup>t</sup>                    | 500 | at F <sup>t</sup> Wash.                         |
| 1 Do.                                 | 500 | at F <sup>t</sup> Indep.                        |

---

1850

## GEN. CLINTON'S

|                                             |                    |
|---------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Browns Corps abt.                           | 450 at Kingsbr.    |
| Delanceys . . .                             | 450                |
| Bayards . . . .                             | 280                |
| Col. Fannings . .                           | 460                |
| N. York Volunteers                          | 150                |
| 35 <sup>th</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup> British . | 250                |
| Col. Robinson . .                           | 300 at Morrisania. |
|                                             | <hr/>              |
|                                             | 2340               |
|                                             | 1850               |
|                                             | <hr/>              |
|                                             | 4190               |

12. Attended the Funeral of M<sup>rs</sup> Haven. Ministers Bearers. The Corps carried into the Meetinghouse, where Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Rogers prayed, one of Dr. Watts's Hymns was sung, & a blessing pronounced. Then the Procession moved and the Corps deposited in Col. Hen. Sherburns Tomb. At Dr. Havens Desire I made a Speech. There was a very numerous Concourse. She was a Daughter of Dr. Appleton of Cambridge, & died æt. 49. A worthy Woman.

13. This Afternoon I rode to Exeter.

14. Ldsdy. I preached at Exeter for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Rogers. A.M. Ephes. ii, 8, 9, 10. P.M. Cant. ii, 2, 3, 4 and baptized there, Sally, Daughter of Dan<sup>l</sup> Gilman & Bridget his wife. .

16. Returned to Portsmouth.

17. . . . . There have been Skirmishes at Eastw<sup>d</sup>. On 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. three Brit. Frig<sup>a</sup> landed 300 Marines at Machias, & burnt two Houses &c. and were beat off & driven aboard by 150 Militia. Killed of the Enemy it is said about sixty—of the Militia one killed. Before this a party landed at Georget<sup>o</sup> [Boothbay]. The Militia rose & took fourty prisoners some of whom Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Murray assumed upon himself to exchange &c. . . . .

Sundry great Persons in Maryld & Pensylv<sup>a</sup> were taken into Custody and removed at a distance upon the fleet comg. up Chesepeak—as M<sup>r</sup> Penn &c. M<sup>r</sup> Will. Smith a N. York Mand<sup>a</sup> Councellor, notwithstanding all his pretensions to Patriotism, refused the Oath of fidelity to the State of N. York & chose to be on his Parole—while his 30 year Compatriots Gov. Livingston & Gen. Scott are acting for their Country. . . . .

The Enemy's Account of the Staten Isld. Affair of 22 Aug. in the New York City Gazette of 28 Aug. After narrating Col. Don-

gan's land<sup>s</sup> with 60 Men from Staten Isl<sup>d</sup>., march<sup>d</sup> 27 miles in Jersey, tak<sup>n</sup> 14 Prisoners & some Cattle on 19 Aug., it proceeds.

“ Last Friday morning (August 22) before day-break a Body of Rebels under the Comm<sup>d</sup> of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Sullivan, Smallwood, & de Bourge, landed in two Div. upon the W. End of Staten Isl<sup>d</sup>. By the Ackn<sup>t</sup> of some of their Officers now prisoners here, their N<sup>o</sup> was at least 2000. One Div. of them soon fell in with a part of the N. Jersey Volunteers (Tories), w<sup>h</sup> Brigade was posted in small Detachments along the side of the Isl<sup>d</sup>. from Deckers ferry to the pt. opposite Perth Amboy, a dist<sup>h</sup> of 15 miles. The Rebels greatly superior in Numbers had the fortune with success to engage the Detachments that were commanded by L<sup>t</sup> Col. Lawrence & Lt. Col. Barton who were both made prisoners with several other officers and a *consid. N<sup>o</sup> of men*. They then marched down to Deckers ferry where they burnt about 35 Tons of hay, & set fire to a barn. As soon as the Alarm had reached Head Qu<sup>rs</sup>. Brig. Gen. Campbell marched with the 52<sup>nd</sup> British, and 3 Battal. of Waldeck, leav<sup>g</sup> a Regt. of Anspach to guard the Camp & Redoubts. Upon the Approach of the regular Troops the Rebels instantly marched off with all speed. In the meantime Brig. Gen. Skinner had collected those of his Corps which had been dislodged from the Stations. ——— &c. It was not known that the Rebels—had gone off tow<sup>ds</sup> Richmond; they were eagerly pursued, & on the road beyond that Village an acc<sup>t</sup> was rec<sup>d</sup> fr. L<sup>t</sup> Col. Dungan that his Post had been attacked by the 2<sup>d</sup> Div. of the En<sup>y</sup>. and obliged to retire (w<sup>h</sup> they did with very little Loss) tow<sup>ds</sup> Lt. Col. Allen who had himself *very seasonably retired*, & taken post on a height near Prince's bay, where Lt. Col. Dongan had joyned him. A large body of the Rebels had twice made a shew of attack<sup>s</sup> them, but finally declined it, & marched off tow<sup>ds</sup> the old blazing star.” . . . “a consid. n<sup>o</sup> of the Eny. were killed, & about *three hundred* taken prisoners, including 21 Officers, viz. 1 Lt. Col., 3 Majors, 2 Cap<sup>ts</sup>, 10 Lt<sup>s</sup>, 3 Ens., 1 Surgeon & 1 Officer wounded. By this time Gen. Campbel had got up *one* piece of Canon with a Detach<sup>mt</sup> of Art<sup>y</sup>. That p<sup>s</sup> was soon followed by 2 or 3 more, & a well directed fire of round and grape shot had a *great Effect* on the Rebel Boats & on those of their pple. who had got over to the Jersey shore. Our loss in the whole affair is 5 killed, 7 wounded & 84 missing. Among the wounded were Lt. Col. Dongan & Maj. Barnes, the former since dead of his wounds. The Rebels by this Attempt have indeed got a good deal of plunder.



The same day about *fifteen hundred* of the Rebels came down tow<sup>ds</sup> our Lines near Kingsbridge, attacked the adv<sup>d</sup> Picket, & took L<sup>t</sup> Griffith a young officer of Col. Brewertons Provincial Battalion, with 2 privates Prisoners & plund. the Inhab. near Brunks River. A Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of about a Thous<sup>d</sup> men under the commd. of his Excell<sup>y</sup> Maj. Gen. Tryon went in Pursuit of them & came up with part of them near the Brunk, where they after giving the adv<sup>d</sup> Guard a distant fire, retreated with great Precipitation."

Rem<sup>d</sup> 1. Where was Gen. Clinton? 2. Two L<sup>t</sup> Colonels & a considerable number of men made prisoners. 3. If Gen. Camp head Qu<sup>rs</sup> are on Staten Isld., it seems the force on that Isld. was 3 *Battalions Regulars, and a provincial Brigade*, say Total 1500, or 2000. Add this to the 4000 about Kingsbridge & 1000 on L. Isld. And suppose a Lot of 7000 Left behind: then defalcate one half and 3 or 4000 may be the Truth. 4. They estimate their own Loss under *one hundred*, & *ours 300*. Gen. Sullivan just reverses it, & estimates the Enemys loss 300 Captives in our hand besides killed, & our loss 100. So variant are the Estimates. 5. Evidently a warm Alarm north & south. . . . .

I received the following Lett. from Rev. Dr. Dana. [The first notice I had that my Election was seriously meditated.]

"WALLINGFORD 25<sup>th</sup>. Aug 1777.

"Rev<sup>d</sup>. & dear Sir

There is Reason to believe you may soon be invited to the Presidency of Yale College. M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich is your Competitor for that Office. A Majority of the Corporation are inclined, I suppose to fix on him, in order to keep inviolate some Peculiarities, which have impoverished & otherwise extremely injured the College. In almost every other view even *they* would give you the Preference. I, however understand that several of them are for you—particularly E. Hartfd, Mansfield, Lyme. An Incident w<sup>c</sup> has the best Aspect on your Election, I shall mention. The Corporation, at their own motion, had an Interview with a Committee from the General Assembly last June [July]—not *designedly* on the subject of the Choice of a President: This subject was, however, introduced by that Committee, and very freely discoursed on. The Commitee were from each County. They all mentioned you as the most proper person—as a gentleman who would be the most acceptable to all ranks, so far as they had had Opport<sup>y</sup> to know the opinion of gentlemen in different parts of the State, and strongly recommended you to the Corporation.

You know the assumed Independence of the College on the State has been the Occasion of withholding that Support, which the former greatly needed, and the latter would chearfully have afforded. The Corporation, after such a Recommendation of D<sup>r</sup> Stiles, will find themselves much embarrassed should they think of chusing M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich. Indeed, should they chuse him, be assured

another College will be immediately set up, over which you will be invited to preside. I must entreat you not to engage at Portsmouth for any length of time. Providence is about to call you to an higher trust." — "Yours &c

JAMES DANA."

The present Corporation of Yale College :

Rev. Moses Dickinson

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Beckwith . . . . Lyme.

Rev. Eliphalet Williams, . . . E. Hartf<sup>d</sup>.

Rev. Warham Williams

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Salter, . . . . Mansfield.

Rev. John Trumbull

Rev. Stephen Johnson . . . . Lyme

Rev. Nathaniel Taylor

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Mather

Rev. Elizur Goodrich

They were all present at my Election. Afterwards the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Dick. æt. 82 and Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Beck<sup>w</sup> very infirm resigned and there were chosen in their Room Rev. Samuel Lockwood, Rev. Timothy Pitkin.

19. I received the following Letter from the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey :

"NEW HAVEN, Sept<sup>r</sup> 13, 1777.

"Rev<sup>d</sup> & Dr. Sir

I take this earliest Opp<sup>t</sup> to inform you, that the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of our Almae Matris. this week, made choice of you President of the College. And I think, I am able to assure you, that the Choice will be agreeable to the Generality of Men of Influence, whether Clergy or Laity, in this State—and particularly that you was nominated by a Committee of the General Assembly, some months ago, to a Committee of the Corporation. And in one word, it appears to me a very clear call in divine Providence, to which you will readily hearken.

M<sup>r</sup> Johnson of Lyme, I understand, is appointed to come down to you from the Corporation. But I thought it friendly to give you this more early Notice.

The Trust, I am sensible, is important; but no matter; when we are called to important and difficult Services, we may with reason encourage ourselves with the Thought that He that is faithful hath said, "My Grace is sufficient for you." You know you have a number of cordial Friends in this place and Neighborhood, and that you may rest assured of all proper acts of Friendship from me. I flatter myself you will not hesitate whether to undertake; the path of Duty for you to me appears plain: and I greatly rejoyce on many accounts in this Disposal of divine Providence.

I shall expect to see you here soon; the beginning of Novr. at the furthest, when the Corporation will meet again. I am, Dr Sir,

Your Sincere Friend & Br in Christ

"Rev. Ezra Stiles D.D.

CHAUNCEY WHITTELEY."

My Election to the Presidency of Yale College is an unexpected and wonderful ordering of divine Providence. Not but that it has been talked of for years past; but I knew such reasons in the breasts of the Fellows, & I tho't such were the Sentiments of the Assembly & a plurality of the Pastors respect<sup>s</sup> my Ideas of ecclesiastical Polity and doctrinal System of Divinity, as that it was impossible I should be elected. When therefore any of my partial friends were pleased to compliment me with the Expectation of such an Event, these insuperable obstacles occurred in my mind—which were to me so decisive, that I did not chuse to hear of it, & the mention of such a Thing has for some years been painful & disgustful. So that I have no more resolved in my Mind whether I am qualified for such an office than for that of a prime Minister or a Sultan; or whether I should on the whole be desirous of it; considering the Smallness of the Salary, and the great and complicated Difficulties & Labours which attend it. An hundred & fifty or 180 Young Gentlemen Students, is a Bundle of Wild Fire not easily controlled & governed—and at best the Diadem of a President is a Crown of Thorns. The Assembly have caused this change, & the Fellows have elected me to prevent the Assembly's building another College. Will it have this Effect? Doubtful.

21. Ldsdy. I preached on Ps. xxvii, 8. P.M. Eph. iii, 8. . . And baptized Bethiah Daughter of Joshua & Sarah Guppy of Middleton, she being a Sister of this Church. Report of a Battle and Success in the Northern Army. Cap<sup>t</sup> Elijah Hall & Eliz<sup>a</sup> Frost married.

22. It is wonderfully ordered in divine Providence that so many Things should conspire towards establishing the Independ<sup>y</sup> of America. Heaven opens Resources and supplies from within ourselves. The Discovery of our being able to make *Saltpetre* and *Copperas* lately, as well as *Potash* formerly, and these in great Abundance, is of this Kind. And now that our W. India Supplies are cut off, Heaven has lead us to the successful Experiment on Corn stalks, from whence it is probable may be made an abund<sup>t</sup> Supply of *Molasses* & *Rum* for this whole Continent. This is done with only the Topping of the corn without damaging the Ear or Grain. In Old York, 8 M. from Portsm<sup>o</sup> are erected last week two Mills, consisting of 3 plane Wooden Cylinders with the Improv<sup>t</sup> of Coggs atop. In these Mills they have all ready made considerable Molasses from Corn Tops—and some of the Molasses has been distilled



into good Rum. It is said the Produce is at the Rate of *two Bbs. Molasses* to an Acre of Corn. Suppose a good acre producing 25 or 30 Bushels Corn, then for every dozen Bush. Corn, we may reckon a Bb. Molasses; but reckon it 1 Bb. to 30 Bushels. There may be 150 Th. Fam<sup>ys</sup> in N. England consuming 30 Bush. each annually for the pple & Cattle. And as there are nearer 200 Th. Families, the Total annual Consumption & Expenditure of Grain in N. Engld. will be 5 or six Millions of Bushels—the produce of England I think is about forty Million Bushels; and Old Engld contains about six times as many Inhab. as N. Engld. Of the Grain raised in N. Engld. more than one half is Indian—the Total of which may be ann<sup>ly</sup> 3 Mill. Bushels, the Corn Tops of which will produce 100 Th. Bbs. Molasses—& if we reckon 2 Bbs. to 30 Bush. or the produce of a good acre, it will be 200 Th. Bbs. An amazing Discovery! a Supply of 1 Bb. to a family with ease. The whole Continental Import<sup>a</sup> from the W. Indies never equald this. There was a prospect of our Depend<sup>a</sup> on the W. Ind. increasing with our Popul<sup>a</sup> & Demand of Rum and Molasses & Sugar, and the price increasing. The W. Indian planters counted upon the enormous Rise of the price of Tropical Produce: & this would have most assuredly proved the case, had not Heaven opened Resources among ourselves. It is probable Corn Tops will furnish an ample supply both of *Spirits & Molasses*, phps Sugar. We can bear to be depend<sup>t</sup> on the W. Ind. for the latter, as we can pay in Lumber. I believe Cane will grow in the S<sup>o</sup> States.

23. This Morn<sup>g</sup> at IX<sup><sup>h</sup></sup> an Express arrived here which left No. IV<sup><sup>1</sup></sup> Sat'y night between 20 & 21 Instant. He bro't a Letter from Gen. Gates dated 17<sup><sup>th</sup></sup> Inst. for the Committee at Bennington; and also Verbal News that last Wed<sup>y</sup> i. e. 17<sup><sup>th</sup></sup> Ins<sup><sup>t</sup></sup> Col. Brown of Pittsfield and a Corps of 1000 Militia retook Ticonderoga—the Enemy's Garrison retiring to Mt. Indep. which we were besieging. Mr. Chauncy left Boston last friday, reports that L<sup>d</sup> Howe's Fleet had left Chesepeak Bay. . . .

The Militia are all in Motion even as far as Ports<sup>m<sup>o</sup></sup> from whence yesterday there marched a brave Company for the Northern Army. The Express says that all are on their March in the Towns he passed from N<sup>o</sup> IV or Charlest<sup>o</sup> to this place. It is said Gen. Gates has 5000 effective Cont. Troops & 3 or 4000 Militia—& Gen. Lincoln

<sup>1</sup> The New Hampshire township originally known as Number Four, named Charlestown in 1753, is in Sullivan County, on the Connecticut River.

4 or 5000 Militia and Gen. Starks 1000. I judge this general Muster must produce a northern Army of *Ten Thousd*—and how easily may this Number be spared out of 150 Thousd fencible Men in N. Engld?

24. News that 11<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> a Corps of G. Wash. Army was repulsed. & the General was at Chester 15 m. fr. Philad<sup>a</sup>. This Even<sup>g</sup> I married Abel Morse & Mehitabel Walker. . . .

25. Rev. Dan<sup>l</sup> Rogers æt 70 & supra told me, it was remarked of M<sup>r</sup> Cobbet antiently a Minister of Ipswich (M<sup>r</sup> Rogers native place) that he was eminent for *free prayer*—that the first Ministers of N, Engld. tho' they did not pray ex Libro, yet went into each one his own Form which he pursued with but *little Variation*. And that it was a Remark that the Ministers of this Century & the present Pastors surpassed those of the first Accession of the last Century with respect to *free prayer*. But I think for clear evangelical Divinity they do not equal them.

A Letter from a Member of Congress on Gen. Sullivan's Descent on Staten Isld, and an Inquiry ordered, says "Some men are fated by their Birth to be second, & unfit to be chief in command." Private. . . .

26. I received a letter from Dr. Dana.

WALLINGFORD 16 Sept. 1777.

REV. & D<sup>r</sup> SIR

I wrote you about 3 Weeks since, intimating my hopes of your being elected President of Yale College, & am now happy in being able to inform you that you were chosen to that office last thursday (Sept. 11)—on w<sup>ch</sup> event I sincerely congratulate you. Herein I do but joyn with thousands, & those of the most respectable characters in chh & state. The call of Providence is clear, nor can I conceive of any possible objection to the acceptance of it, in your present exiled state, & that of your flock. M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich will, I suppose, wait on you next week with the Votes of the Corporation. All the Tutors are strong in your Interest. Could your beloved Flock be collected, I am persuaded, that warm as their Friendship to you is, the prospect of the extensive good you may do the Chhs. and your Country at the Head of an important Seminary, would induce them (in present circumstances especially) to acquiesce in your acceptance of the Choice. Indeed you cannot consistent with the call of Duty refuse. I am &c.

D<sup>r</sup> STILES.

JAMES DANA.

How gracious is my heavenly Father ! that, in these most distressing times, I should have the Option of 3 Situations, either the *Presid<sup>y</sup> of Yale College*; or an *immediate Settlement* in *Portsm<sup>o</sup>*, by being installed here; or a comfortable Residence here till it should please

God I might *return to my dear Flock* at Newport when it shd. be his Will to regather us from our Dispersion.

27. Last Evening an Express arrived from the Northern Army to the General Assembly of this State now sitting in Portsmouth. Gen. Bayleys Letter to the Committee of Safety at N<sup>o</sup> IV or Charlestown.

"CASTLETOWN, Sept. 22, 1777.

SIR

You will see by the inclosed what we are doing here. Gen. Lincoln is gone to join Gen. Gates, & left us to act in this Quarter with *fifteen hundred* men ; our Ground is too large for our men, therefore request that all our Militia above Charlestown & Eastward march to our assistance with Horses, bringing Flour and Beef to serve themselves one month : by w<sup>e</sup> time I hope the whole of Gen. Burgoyne's Army will be in our hands. I think now every man of Sp<sup>t</sup> will turn out ; pasturing is good & plenty this way.

I am your very hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

JACOB BAYLEY, B. D. G.

*I send about an hundred prisoners* to you, to dispose of as you think will be most safe ; some provision must be sent to morrow to meet the prisoners as far as one days Travel from home, as we have none to spare. The number to supply will be about 150 men, no time may be lost, in sendg along Militia. *Gen. Arnold has fought the Right Wing of Gen. Burgoyne's*, won three Field pieces, *the Field*, and 250 Prisoners. Great Loss on both sides.

B. BAYLEY."

"Particulars of the Movements of Gen. Lincoln from Sep. 13<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. 13<sup>th</sup> marched in 3 Div. from Pawlet. commanded by Col *Brown, Johnston & Woodbury*. Col. Brown crossed S<sup>e</sup> Bay to relieve o<sup>r</sup> prisoners at the N<sup>o</sup> of L. George, Col. Johnson at the same time to divert the En<sup>y</sup> at Independence. Col. Woodbury at Skeensborough to cover Col. Brown's retreat, &c. On Wednesday Morning the 17<sup>th</sup> at Day break, Col. Brown began the attack, set at liberty 100 of our Men which were prisoners, took prisoners 293 of the Enemy, amongst which were 2 Captains, & 7 Lieutenants, & two other Officers, took Mount Defiance, Mount Hope, the French Lines, & the Block-House, the Landing, 200 Batteries, one Armed Sloop, Several Gun Boats ; on Sunday took about 100 Prisoners, the Prisoners are marched for Connecticut, except 100, took a vast Quantity of Plunder. His Water Craft are with a party set out for the South End of Lake George, where are all their Boats, Baggage & heavy Artillery. I have not the least Doubt but they will succeed ; the Division consists of 500 Men each, Col. Brown is reinforced now to 700, we mean to keep possession of the Ground at Ticonderoga.—The Field is now opened wide. The Time is now, that we may entirely cut off Gen. Burgoyne's whole Army if we exert ourselves. Our numbers are not sufficient to keep what we have & can get. I think it the Duty of every Man to turn out with his Horse & one Month's Provision. I must call on all Friends to America to turn out & come to our assistance at Ticonderoga.

JACOB BAYLEY, B. D. G."

P. S. Gen. Lincoln is gone to join Gen. Gates.



This evening came to my house the Rev<sup>d</sup> Stephen Johnson of Lyme, one of the Fellows of Yale College, sent by and in the Name of the Corporation, to wait upon me with their Choice of me to the Presidency of that Society. The Number of Undergraduates there last year was 170 or 180—of which 40 received their Degrees at New Haven the 10<sup>th</sup> Instant; replaced by but a dozen or 15 Freshmen. Since last March, the classes have been kept at Weatherf<sup>d</sup>, Glassenb<sup>y</sup> & Farmington, the College broken up & scattered thro' the Calamities of the times. It has been a flourishing Academy; having had a greater Number of Students for several years past than any College in America, tho' without Funds. Harv. Coll. has had for a number of years past about 160 or 170 students Undergrad. at a time—now only 120: Jersey Coll. used to have 70 or 80; Dartm<sup>o</sup> 60 or 70: the other Colleges 20 or 30. The Times reduce all; Toga cedit Armis. . . . .

My Election to the Presidency of Yale College.

YALE COLLEGE IN NEW HAVEN, Sept. 10, 1777.

“REVEREND SIR

These are to inform you that the Fellows of Yale College at their present meeting have made choice of you as PRESIDENT, and appointed the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Johnson one of their members, to wait upon you with their choice, and solicit your acceptance. We trust Sir, you will attend to this as an important call of divine providence.

The circumstances of this Seminary are such as greatly need a President, and require his immediate presence and exertions in office. A favourable answer, as soon as conveniently may be, will be peculiarly acceptable to this Board.

A meeting of this Corporation to receive your Answer is appointed the first tuesday of November next.

We heartily wish you the direction and guidance of heaven in this great and important affair, and are,

Reverend Sir

With great respect and esteem

Your assured friends, & obed<sup>t</sup> servants

By order of the Fellows of Yale College in New Haven,

MOSES DICKINSON.”

“To the Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr Ezra Stiles, Portsmouth.”

Mr. Whitt<sup>y</sup> Lett. to Mr. Johnson.

NEW HAVEN, Sep. 18, 1777.

REV. & Dr SIR

I understand that you are appointed to go down to Dr. Stiles, & solicit his acceptance of the Presidentship. I hope he will comply without Hesitation: you may, if you please, inform him not only of my warmest Desire, but also that I am clearly of opinion, that this is a Call of divine Providence to him—many incitements in providence (some of which are remarkable, that I could men-

tion have led to it, & been means of bringing it to pass.—Besides Gentlemen of Character, both of the Civil & Ecclesiastical order unitedly approve the Choice & would be very much disappointed and grieved, shd. they hear that the D<sup>r</sup> declined accepting. I think I am very sure he will have the Friendship & Support of the g<sup>d</sup> Body of men of Literature & Influence in this State. I have heard it observed, that was the choice to be made by the Gen. Assembly, D<sup>r</sup> S— would be chosen by a g<sup>d</sup> Majority, and almost unanimously. And it is highly prob<sup>ab</sup> to me that he may be the happy means of removing *intirely* all that Alien<sup>a</sup> or Jealousy, w<sup>ch</sup> seems to have subsisted in times past between the State and the College and thus of promot<sup>g</sup> the Interest both of the Coll. & the State, to which he once belonged.

To be sure he will be under advant<sup>a</sup> to be more eminently useful, than as the Pastor or Bishop of any particular Flock, & may do more towards advanc<sup>g</sup> the glor. cause of the blessed Jesus. In one word the Case is clear, he must come, & Gd. will be with him, I doubt not & make him a Blessing in that very important Station to w<sup>ch</sup> he is chosen & called. Wishing you a good Journey, & that your Applic<sup>n</sup> may be successful & Learn<sup>g</sup> & Relig<sup>n</sup> flourish under Presi<sup>d</sup> St—, I subscribe myself with &c. Y<sup>r</sup> B<sup>r</sup> & Fellow Servant

in the K<sup>m</sup> of Christ

REV. M<sup>r</sup> JOHNSON

CHAUNCEY WHITTELEY."

Mr Johnson tells me there was no meeting of the Fellows from Spring to Commencement. They in the Spring appointed a Committee to request a Conference with a Committee of Assembly. This Conference was in July. The Committee of Assembly proposed an Enlarg<sup>t</sup> of the Institution without alter<sup>n</sup> of Charter—that the Assembly should give an *Addit. to the Liby*, a *phil. Apparatus*, and professorships of *Med*, *Law*, *Orat<sup>n</sup>* &c only that they should have a voice in concurrence with the Fellows in appointing professors supported by the State. This they supposed would produce a cordial Union between the College & Assembly. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> had no Thots of introduc<sup>g</sup> the subject of a President. But the Committee of Assembly took this up and unanimously recommended me—saying that if the Fellows would do this and come into the above Ideas the Assembly would do every Thing for the aggrandizment of Yale Coll. otherwise they should not. Correspond<sup>t</sup> to these Ideas they drafted a Report to be laid before the Assembly this October Session. The Fellows have concurred & drafted a Memorial to the Assembly accordingly. What the Assembly will do, must be left. These Movements determined the Majority of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> to proceed *now* to the Choice. On the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst. they voted 5 for me & 4 for M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich who voted for M<sup>r</sup> Huntington of Coventry—so no vote. Next day the Majority was for me. But nothing short of Unanimity shall induce my Acceptance.

28. Ldsday. A.M. I preached on Jude, 20, 21. P.M. I preached on the same Text for Dr. Haven. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Stephen Johnson preaching for me & notifying the Lords Supper next Ldsdy & a Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lect. Thursday Evening.

29. This day my Daughter Kezia æt. 17. Last Sat<sup>y</sup> the Gen. Assembly of this State of N. Hampshire sitting in this town, broke off in the midst of the Sessions, left Business unfinished, and by vote agreed to go off and joyn the Northern Army in this general Muster and Marching of Militia: about half the Gen. Court are gone. A noble Example!

October.

2. All this week I have had under Consideration the great and weighty affair of the Presidency of Yale College. The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Johnson, whom the Corporation sent to solicit my Acceptance returned this day; by him I wrote the following Answer.

“To the Reverend the Corporation of Yale College.

GENTLEMEN

Your Election of me to so conspicuous a Station as the Presidency of Yale College is an Honor as unexpected as it is unmerited. Your Applic<sup>n</sup> to me upon this important Affair, I have received by the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Johnson in your Letter of the 10<sup>th</sup> ult. wherein you are pleased to request “a favourable answer.” I am conscious of great Deficiency in Qualifications for the Office & Trust to which you have invited me. The Employment is so difficult & weighty that I distrust my Abilities to discharge it with that usefulness & Dignity which may render me acceptable to you and the public. It is of great Importance that the Head of the College should be acceptable to the Fellows, to the Body of the Chhs. & Pastors, to the General Assembly and the People at large. And altho’ M<sup>r</sup> Johnson has given me a favorable Representation as to the prospect I might entertain of this; yet for a more full satisfaction, I have thought it prudent & expedient to make a Journey into Connecticut, & refer the matter to further consideration, when I may have had an Interview with the Corporation at their meeting next month. A concurrence of the public Sentiment on this occasion would greatly contribute towards indicating the Path of Duty upon this important call of divine Providence. For, as on the one hand, if there should appear any considerable Dissatisfaction in the public, it would determine me to decline the office; so on the other hand, a general free acquiescence would, with other Openings of providence, & particularly the consent of the scattered Remnant of my dear Flock, have great weight in determining my Acceptance. May the Father of Lights conduct us all by his unerring Wisdom in this momentous affair, and give it such a Direction & Issue, as may best subserve his Glory, and the Advancemt. of Religion and Literature. I am, Gentlemen, With great Respect,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> very humble Serv<sup>t</sup>

Portsm<sup>o</sup> Oct. 2, 1777.

EZRA STILES.



By M<sup>r</sup> Johnson I wrote letters to Messrs Stevens & Vernon of my Newport Congreg<sup>a</sup> requesting them to call a Meeting of as many of my dear exiled Flock as could be collected on 28<sup>th</sup> Inst. Oct. that I might lay before them my Call to the Presidency. This Even<sup>g</sup> I preached my Sacram<sup>t</sup> Lecture on Eph. i, 13.

3. Last week the Hon. Samuel Danforth<sup>1</sup> Esq. of Cambridge died in Boston, æt. 81 & supra. He was deeply studied in the Writings of the Adepts, believed the Philosophers Stone a Reality and perhaps for Chemical knowledge might have passed among the Chemists for a **בעל שם** . . . . .

4. Mr. Frost a New Hamp. Delegate in Congress is just returned; he left Philadelphia 18 Sep<sup>r</sup>; the Congress then not removed.

In the General Action at Bennington 11<sup>th</sup> Sept. and in that at Stillwater 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. the Americans fought well; eno' to shew that we can meet the Enemy in pitch Battle. After being beat a few times we shall learn to beat. It is said the Congress are removed into Jersey. Last night a Flagg from Newport arrived here, asking Leave to carry off 3 or 4 Tory families.

The Militia are assembling and crowding forward to Rh. Isd. an Exped<sup>n</sup> being planned for retaking Newport.

5. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. on Gal. ii, 20. Then admitted William Walker & Hannah Dam into full Communion; & administered the Lds. Supper to 60 Communicants: the exercise held us till 20 min. after one o'Clock. P.M. Ps. xi, 7, and baptized Margaret, Daught. of John Mendum & Susanna his wife. Then visited & prayed with a sick person, afterwards attended a Funeral of Sister Nelson & spoke at her Grave. Exceedingly fatigued in the Evening; having sat down scarcely half an hour from Eight in the Morn<sup>g</sup> till after the family Devotion at Seven o'clock in the Evening.

6. . . . . Lett. fr. Phil<sup>a</sup> 14 Sep.

"We have *thirteen Thousd Continental Troops* and I imagine *5 or six Thousand Militia*." So about 20 Th. to fight Howes 10 Thousd. Our N<sup>o</sup> Army may be 8 or *Ten Thous'd* to fight Burgoyne's 5 Thousd. G. Putnams Departm<sup>t</sup> about N. York say 5000. Besides the crowd of Militia now going for Rh. Isld.

I catechized 116 children.

<sup>1</sup> Harvard Coll. 1715. See *New England Historical & Genealogical Register*, vii, 319.

7. About noon arrived in this Town about 80 Prisoners of the En<sup>y</sup> which Col. Brown took at the Retak<sup>g</sup> of Ticonderoga.

An American Crisis No. 4 was published at Philad<sup>a</sup> 12 Sep. day after Battle.

Extr. Journal of a Brit. officer taken in the Battle at Bennington.  
 “List of killed and wound. at Hubartt<sup>o</sup> July 7.

| “ KILLED                                    |                  | WOUNDED                          |                  |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------|----------------------------------|------------------|
| Major Grant of . . .                        | 24 <sup>th</sup> | Capt. Stapleton of the . .       | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| L <sup>t</sup> Douglas . . . . .            | 29 <sup>th</sup> | L <sup>t</sup> Roe . . . . .     | 9 <sup>th</sup>  |
| L <sup>t</sup> Nayest of Marines.           |                  | L <sup>t</sup> Neil . . . . .    | 29 <sup>th</sup> |
| Privates                                    |                  | Capt. Harris . . . . .           | 34 <sup>th</sup> |
| Advanced Corps . . .                        | 22               | Major Ld. Balcarras . .          | 53 <sup>d</sup>  |
| Germans . . . . .                           | 10               | L <sup>t</sup> Cullen . . . . .  | 53 <sup>d</sup>  |
| Major Ackland . . .                         | 20 <sup>th</sup> | Capt. Shrimpton . . .            | 62 <sup>d</sup>  |
| Capt. Ross . . . . .                        | 34 <sup>th</sup> | L <sup>t</sup> Jones . . . . .   | 62 <sup>d</sup>  |
| L <sup>t</sup> R <sup>d</sup> Son . . . . . | 34 <sup>th</sup> | Adv <sup>a</sup> Corps . . . . . | 122              |
| Capt. Craige . . . . .                      | 47 <sup>th</sup> | Germans . . . . .                | 13               |

On the 8<sup>th</sup> of July the *ninth* Regt. marchd to Ft. Ann twenty miles from Skeensboro where a Body of the Rebels to the am<sup>o</sup> of 600 attacked 137 of the Ninth Regt.—nine killed, 4 Officers killed & 1 wounded as below—1 of the wounded Officers was taken prisoner—L<sup>t</sup> Westrop killed & 32 Privates killed and wounded.

On the 9<sup>th</sup> of July the adv<sup>a</sup> Corps marched fr. Hubbartown to Skeensboro—the Evg. before the Hessians left Hubbarttown—there was killed L<sup>t</sup> Cleland of the Artill<sup>y</sup> & a Volunteer wounded. At the Land<sup>g</sup> at Skeens we took five Rebel Vessels, among w<sup>c</sup> was a Row Galley w<sup>c</sup> mounted two 24 pounders in his Bow & ten sixes. We took Prisoners at Hubbard Town 1 Col. 7 Capt. 4 Subalterns 261 Privates. Killed 1 Col. 50 Privates, & nearly the same wounded and taken prisoners. Killed (meaning of the European Troops) L<sup>t</sup> Westrop 9<sup>th</sup> Regt., 11 priv<sup>a</sup>, 1 Serjeant. Wounded Cap<sup>t</sup> Montgomery & taken prisoner Surgeon Seely, L<sup>t</sup> Murray, L<sup>t</sup> Safely, Adj<sup>t</sup> Fieldon, 2 Serg<sup>ts</sup>, 21 Privates.”

Rem<sup>a</sup> 1. Good fighting at Hubbt<sup>o</sup> & Ft. Ann. 2. The Magnitude of a Regt. effective 137. 3. Eight Reg<sup>ts</sup> concerned. 4. If 9<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> be a medium the whole 15 (mentioned by S<sup>t</sup> Clair) would yield of Effectives perhaps 2000, say 4000.

8. Col. Browns<sup>1</sup> Letter to Gen. Gates on Retak<sup>g</sup> Ticond.

<sup>1</sup> John Brown (Yale 1771).

"NORTH END OF LAKE GEORGE LANDING Sept. 18, 1777.

"SIR, With great Fatigue, after march<sup>g</sup> all last night, I arrived at this place at break of day, & after the best disposition of the men I could make, immediately began the attack, & in a few minutes carried the place. I then without Loss of time detached a consid. part of my men to the mill where a great N<sup>o</sup> of the Enemy were posted, who also were made prisoners: a small number of whom hav<sup>e</sup> taken possession of a Blockhouse in that Vicinity were with more difficulty bro't to submission; but at the sight of the Canon they surrendered.

During these Seasons of Successes Mt. Defiance also fell into our hands.—*I have taken possession of the old French Lines at Ticonderoga. I have sent in a flag demanding a surrend<sup>r</sup> of Ty and Mt. Independence, in the strongest & most peremptory Terms.* Have had as yet no Inform<sup>a</sup> of the Event of Col. Johnstons attack at the Mount. My Loss of men in the several Actions are not more than 3 or 4 killed & 5 wounded. The Enemy's Loss is less. *I find myself in Possession of Two hundred & ninety three Prisoners*, viz. 2 Capt., 9 Subalt., 2 Commissaries, non commissioned officers & privates 143 Brit. & 119 Canadians, 18 Artificers, & *retook more than 100 of our men*, Total 293 exclusive of the prisoners retaken. The Water Craft I have taken is 120 Bat-teaus above the falls in L. Champl<sup>a</sup> 50, includ<sup>g</sup> several large Gun boats & an armed Sloop; Arms equal to the no. of Prisoners, some Amunition, & many other Things w<sup>h</sup> I cannot yet ascertain. I must not forget a few Canon w<sup>h</sup> may be of great Service to us."

Gen. St Clair said in his Letter to Congress that it required Ten Thousand men within to defend against Eight Thousand without the Lines.

10. For several days past we have had a Report here of the Success of the Eny. at the southward. . . . .

12. Ldsdy. I exchanged all day with D<sup>r</sup> Haven. He baptized for me Jn<sup>o</sup> Son of Jn<sup>o</sup> Gregory and Sarah his wife. I preached A.M. Ps. 97, 1, 2. P.M. Heb. vii, 19, and baptized 4 children viz. John Son of Jn<sup>o</sup> Walden—Benjamin son of Benj<sup>a</sup> Odiorne—Sally, Daugh. of Jn<sup>o</sup> Barns, to whom I previously administered the Covenant—and James French son of Ann French. I then propounded Jn<sup>o</sup> Sherburn for owning the Covenant. All this I did in D<sup>r</sup> Havens Church. When Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Wilson first Minister of Boston went to London about 1632, the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Phillips Pastor of Watertown administered the Lds Supper in Mr. Wilsons Chh. in Boston—See Jus Ministerii Evangelici printed in London 1654. After 1632 the Ministers were so full of the plenary Power of Chhs to organize & govern themselves, that Pastors became considered as having office power in a particular Chh. & this only during Ministry there—hence it was held that Ministers could not dispense sealing or ordinances out of their Chh; from about 1635 to 1700 this Limit<sup>a</sup> was general.



Afterwards it was tacitly admitted that neighb<sup>r</sup> pastors might administer seals in destitute Chhs. but not where there were pastors. It is scarcely yet agreed that a Minister whose pastoral Relation is dissolved may administer sealing ordinances. It was strange & novel when 1761 M<sup>r</sup> Rowland practised it as Providence, & 1770 when M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins previous to Instalment did it at Newport. . . . .

13. We hear Col. Brown & our party have left Ticonderoga & are collecting around Gen. Burgoyne.

14. And just at night arrived here and by sunset was reprinted a Handbill giving account of a second capital & successful Battle above Stillwater, on Tuesd<sup>y</sup> 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. and that on the 8<sup>th</sup> Gen. Burgoyne & his whole Army marched off to the northward feeling, after two Battles, the Unconquerableness of the Americans. It is said Gov. Tryon from N. York with 3 or 4000 are moved up N<sup>o</sup> River, some say coming into Connecticut.

15. Mr. M<sup>c</sup>Clintock tells me that a private soldier of Greenld arrived there last Lds dy Evening in about 4 days from Warwick neck, & says that before he came away last week 800 of our Troops passed over from Warwick to Rh. Isld. & 800 more were to go the next night. If this is true, they seem in earnest going for Newport. . . . .

17. I have not Leisure for Entries. A Fleet of 30 sail passed up N<sup>o</sup> River as high as Peeks Kill, landed 3000 men (say 2000) & took Ft. Montgomery Our pple. set fire to two of our own Frigates near there to prevent them from falling into the En<sup>ys</sup> hands. The Draughts for Reinforc<sup>e</sup>. G. Washington at Philad<sup>a</sup>. had left but 700 at this Fort, and not en<sup>o</sup> in the Peeks Kill Departm<sup>t</sup> to withstand the En<sup>y</sup>, who took this Advantage of us.

On Friday the *Twenty sixth of Sept.* a Corps of Two Thousd from G. Howes Army entered & took possession of the City of Philad<sup>a</sup> immed<sup>y</sup> marched back to Howes Army whose Head Qurs. were then at Germantown six miles North of Philad<sup>a</sup> & on the East side of the Schuylkill. G. Wash. Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> were five miles beyond Howes. The City was evacuated by all but the *Quakers* : & Gen. Wash. had left it open for G. Howe to run in and burrough there as at Brunswick whenever he pleased. The Congress is removed to York Town in the N<sup>o</sup> West. part of Pensylvania.

18. A Letter from the Hon Oliver Woolcott Esq. a Militia Genl. dated at Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> in Northern Army 11th Oct. to Gov Trumbul, came here last Evng. It contains a full Acc<sup>n</sup> of the Action of

the 7<sup>th</sup> & the operations to the 11<sup>th</sup> when Gen. Burgoyne was so surrounded as to necessitate someth<sup>g</sup>. vigorous & decisive speedily. Burgoyne had not retreated far: he attempted to cross N<sup>o</sup> River and was repulsed and prevented by Col. Bellows who was placed with 3000 on the East side over against the En<sup>y</sup>: they then attempted westward and we again repulsed them.

Report this Even<sup>g</sup> that Tryon & his fleet had returned down N<sup>o</sup> River: that there had been another general Battle at Philad<sup>a</sup>: that Gates summond Burgoyne last Ldsdy to surrender; that a Picket of 600 of our forces were on Rh. Isld., & our Army there were *Ten Thousd* intend<sup>g</sup> a Descent in a few days.

The En<sup>y</sup> have *taken one of our Frigates* near Philadelphia; they attempted to pass up the River, but the *Roe Buck* English Man o'War *stuck upon our Cheveaux de Frize*, & we by our Canon repelled two others; we took possession of the *Roe Buck*, but it is said she sunk.

19. Ldsdy. I preached on Ps. v, 11, 12. P. M. Jn<sup>o</sup> v, 24, and notified the Chh & Congreg<sup>a</sup> my Invitation to the Presidency of Yale College—and that I purposed a journey to Connecticut, & to return by the Leave of Providence after 3 Sabbaths—and that M<sup>r</sup> Clark a Candidate would supply my Pulpit in my absence.

20. Last Monday Gen. Burgoyne offered Terms. I am setting out on a Journey to Connecticut.

Returned Nov. 26<sup>th</sup> & found my Family well, being seven children & a servant. Deo opt. max. Grates.

#### EXTRACTS FROM MY ITINERARY.

20. Sat out on my Journey, & rode 7 M. to M<sup>r</sup> McLintocs.<sup>1</sup>

21. At Mr Macclintocs. N. E. Storm of Rain, Hail & Snow.

22. Newbury. Oats & Ferry 1/10. News G. Burgoyne & his Army surrendered. Arrived at Ipswich. Spent Even<sup>g</sup> with D<sup>r</sup> Whitaker at Mr Danas. Lodge Mr Frisbys.<sup>2</sup>

23. Certain News at Malden of Victory over Burgoyne who surrendered 17<sup>th</sup> Inst. Heard Firing Canon at Salem, all the way to Lynn—Firing at Boston.—Rejoycing Universal—dined at 6<sup>h</sup>/8. Barbers &c 6<sup>d</sup>. Arrived at Cambridge. Attended Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Samuel Macclintock (Princeton 1751), of Greenland.

<sup>2</sup> Levi Frisbie (Dartmouth Coll. 1771) was settled over the 1st Church in Ipswich; Joseph Dana (Yale 1760), over the 5th Church; and Nathaniel Whitaker over the Tabernacle church in Salem.

in College. Bonfire & Illumin<sup>a</sup> of the whole T<sup>o</sup> of Camb. for Victory.

24. Charlest<sup>o</sup> ferry &c. 10<sup>d</sup>. Passed thro' B<sup>o</sup>. Lodged at Dr. Gordons Roxbury.

25. Dined at Noyes, 3/4. Oats &c. 2 8—Reached Taunton. Last Ldsdy Even<sup>g</sup> Gen. Spencer & 7000 assembled at Howl<sup>ds</sup> ferry stood ready to make a Descent on Rh. Isld. but Wind too high. Commissary delivered rations for 8000. I estimate 5000. The Enemy on Rh. Isld. 2500.

26. Ldsdy at Taunton. I preached. *Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Jones<sup>1</sup> ord. there 22<sup>d</sup> Inst.*

27. About 10<sup>th</sup> Inst by Commissary Philips account Nine Thous<sup>d</sup> at Howl<sup>d</sup> Ferry & after this the Connect. Troops 2000 came in. So about middle Oct<sup>r</sup> Gen. Spencer had an Army of *Ten Thous<sup>d</sup>* at & about Howl<sup>ds</sup> Ferry ready for an attack. Besides a guard along Narraganset Shore.

Last night mustered 5500 only at Howl<sup>ds</sup> Ferry. The Troops dissatisfied and returning.

28. At Dighton. N. E. Storm.

29. At Mrs. Channings in Dighton. Militia return<sup>g</sup>. Enterprize given up—owing it is sd. to Gen. Spencers being influenced by a chaplain, Rev. Mr. Hopkins, who objected ag<sup>t</sup> going on the Isld. on the Ldsdy, 19th, and Storm & bad weather prevented ever since. There were 3 Deacons among the Generals in the Council of War which consisted of

Maj. Gen. Spencer, D.

B. Gen. Cornel

B. Gen. Palmer D

Col. Sherburn, Commd't.

B. Gen. Douglass D

B. Gen. Lowell.

30. At Providence ferry fell in with Gen. Spencer<sup>2</sup> & arrived with him into Provid. about noon. He is full of Concern & Mortification. He told me the highest Returns were 8333 on Oct. 13<sup>th</sup> and that they had Boats to transport 5000 Troops at once; & that he estimated the Numbers on Rh. Isld. about 33 or 35 hundred Regulars—tho' he said there were but *seven Regiments*, w<sup>c</sup> till lately

<sup>1</sup> See Diary, Sept. 26, 1776.

<sup>2</sup> Joseph Spencer, a native of East Haddam, Conn., and brother of the Rev. Elihu Spencer, a College classmate of Dr. Stiles. He resigned in consequence of the censures passed upon him for the failure of this attempt on Rhode Island.



they had considered only as 2200. The General was anxious to vindicate his Character, and as I was going into Connect. he desired me to hear his Story & shewed me several papers. From him & others I made up this Judgment—that it was not the Design of Heaven that we should now take Rh. Isld.—that tho' some of the Troops assembled the begin<sup>g</sup> of Oct. yet the main body were not actually at & about the ferry till about the 13<sup>th</sup> or nearest the middle Oct.—that tho' there might be some delays as to preparing the Boats &c. yet the Army was not in all Things ready before the 19<sup>th</sup> tho' they had paraded 2 or 3 times before that to try the Mettle of the Men.—that it will be found there was no blameable Delay of the Generals before the 19<sup>th</sup>—that the 19<sup>th</sup> *was a fine beautiful day* and no Wind to bring up the Enemy's ships—that 19<sup>th</sup> was Ldsdy—that from the 20<sup>th</sup> to the Disband<sup>g</sup> the Army on the 27<sup>th</sup> & to the end of the Month, it was impossible to make a Descent by reason of two severe N. E. Storms of Snow & Rain—that the Enlistment expired on the last of October.

That the not going on on the 19<sup>th</sup> occasioned great Murmur<sup>g</sup>s thro' the Camp, some ascribing it to Cowardice, Incapacity, to the Chaplains Influence, to its hav<sup>g</sup> been intended only as a feint to make a Diversion from the N<sup>o</sup> River—in short from that day a total Loss of Confidence in the Generals spread thro' the Army, with Dispair & Belief that noth<sup>g</sup> would be done; this with an heavy snow storm created an Impatience to return—& so the Army began to decrease & moulder away. It was not in the Power of the Generals to recover them from this Dissatisfaction or revive the eager & noble Spirit which *Ten Thousd.* of our best men in N. E. were inspired with on the 19<sup>th</sup>. A Difference arose in the Council of War—Gen. Palmer protested ag<sup>t</sup> going on without 8 or 9000 Men.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> Oct. G. Spencer found all was coming to nothing & pressed going on, tho' the weather was not good. A Council met & agreed to it if they could turn out 6500—they paraded that night but 5500. This the last Attempt. Gen. Spencer disbanded them the 27<sup>th</sup> & returned.

In free conversation I told the General it was said he was prevented the 19<sup>th</sup> by the Clergy. He smiled & said that Mr H—— did indeed that Evening say to the Generals, *he hoped they would not go on on the Sabbath*, but that this did not hinder it—tho' ordinarily he shd. not chuse to begin a work on the Sabb. yet he should have pur-

sued this Enterprize without Hesitancy as to Scruples of Conscience, but in truth said he "we were not quite ready." This for Narration.

I judge they were so near ready that if it was to be acted over again, the Gen. would have gone on the 19<sup>th</sup>—This unhappy Event teaches two Lessons, that Generals commanding Amer. Militia must watch the critical Moment when the Patience & Sp<sup>t</sup> & Confidence of their men is exhausted; 2<sup>nd</sup>, it will teach Militia not to be so infinitely impatient for runn<sup>g</sup> home when Enlistm<sup>ts</sup> are out. Had they tarried one Week longer, they would have succeeded, taken Rh. Isld. and returned with Honor.

31. I rode to Greenwich—visited Rev. Mr. Torrey at S<sup>o</sup> K—— and requested him to joyn with the other Ministers of our Rh. Isld. Association in advising me & my Chh. upon the affair of my Call to the Presidency of Yale College. In my Journey I visited the Dispersion of my exiled Flock & consulted them upon the subject; and at my Desire M<sup>r</sup> Stevens as a Committee is to advertise a Meeting to see whether they will leave the matter to my Determin<sup>a</sup> with the Advice of the Association, or not?

In Narrag. I rode with Mrs. Burk who left Newport 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. She told me fewer than 200 were all the Recruits arrived there since the 1500 left them in Feby. last. So I am satisfied there are not above 1500 or 2000 Kings Troops on Rh. Isld.—I rode to Mrs. Marchants, 3 m. west of the Rest, who showed me her Husband Letters from Congress.<sup>1</sup> In his Lett. dated at York 30 Sept. he gives Acc<sup>o</sup> of remov<sup>g</sup> the Congress.

Sept. 19. Presid<sup>t</sup> Hancock notified that a Party of the Enemy had passed the Schuylkill near Sweeds ford. The Prest. rec<sup>d</sup> this at Midnight & notified the members and a Quorum instantly adjourned for Removal.

20. at I. Prest & most of the Congress departed the City. Papers &c had been sent off before. At III Mess<sup>rs</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Adams & March<sup>t</sup> had notice, rose & sat off at IV. Congress breakfasted at Bristol 20 M. from Philad<sup>a</sup>—dined at Trenton. Thence proceeded via Eastown, Bethlehem to Lancaster, where made a Congress, sat & dispatched Business & adjourned to York Town 90 M. fr. Philad<sup>a</sup> tho' 170 by the Route. 23. G. Howes Army crossed Schuylkill 17 M. above the City—G. Wash. still higher up. 25. Howe entered the City of Philad<sup>a</sup>. End of Extract.

<sup>1</sup> Henry Marchant, of Newport, Dr. Stiles's intimate friend, was elected to the Continental Congress in May, 1777.

November.

1. Dined at Dr. Babcocks in Westerly. Arrived at M<sup>r</sup> Chesebroughs in Stonington.

2. Ldsdy. I preached there for Mr Eells and at his Desire assisted him in the Administration of the Lds Supper. He said his Father once also assisted him in that ordinance.

The En<sup>ys</sup> fleet went up N<sup>o</sup> River to Red Hook—burned Esopus on the — and Oct. 23 returned from Redhook. Not a Tory in Esopus. This the Reason &c.

3. To Serv<sup>t</sup> 1/6, Ferry 1/6, N Lond. Blacksmith 1/- Oats & sider 1/4, Saybrook Ferry 1/4. Arrived at Rev. Mr. Devotions in Saybrook.

4. At Dr. Gales in Killingworth. As I had first tasted good Molasses 21<sup>st</sup> Oct. at Greenld made of Cornstalks; so here Dr Gale first shewed me Spirits made of this Juice, w<sup>c</sup> I tasted and also saw it sink oyl. Stalks green or in best state 13 Gallons of Juice make one Gall. Sp<sup>t</sup>—older Stalks 20 Gallons. From about a quarter of an acre cut in Aug<sup>t</sup> last produced 56 Gall. Juice—of w<sup>c</sup> 49 Gall. produced six Gall. Molasses. Perhaps a Bush. Corn to a Gall. Molasses.

Arrived at New Haven in comp<sup>a</sup> with Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Johnson one of the Fellows. Rev. Mr. Whittelsey & Sq<sup>r</sup> Bishop<sup>1</sup> spent the eveng. with me at Col. Hubbards.<sup>2</sup> Mr. Bp. just fr. Assembly, says he heard many of the Assembly speak of my Election, not one objected, all that spoke of it approved, particularly Gen. Wolcott &c. Mr. Whitty says  $\frac{3}{4}$  Assembly &  $\frac{3}{4}$  of the Ministers are full for me.

5. The Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull & Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Johnson two of the Fellows in the name of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> waited upon & introduced me into the Corporation, with whom I had a long Conference. They told me the Associations of the Co. of Windham, Fairfield, Litchfield approved of my Election—& that it was agreeable to the general sense of the Ministers & of the State of Connect. at large. They seemed satisfied & friendly, & voted me £160 Salary or a little above £120 sterl<sup>l</sup>, & the Degree Money<sup>3</sup> which they augmented from 2 to four Dollars, the Use of the President's House & Lot,

<sup>1</sup> Deacon Samuel Bishop of the 1st Church, born 1698, died 1780, deputy to the General Assembly from 1760.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Leverett Hubbard (Yale Coll. 1744), Mrs. Stiles's eldest brother, occupied the stone house (still standing) which he had built at the junction of Meadow and George streets.

<sup>3</sup> The fee paid to the President for his signature to a diploma.



& 10 acres of Land w<sup>c</sup> this year rented at £9. The whole Living estimated £220 L. M. annually.

Present, Rev. Eliphalet Williams of E. Hartfd.

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Salter . . . Mansfield.

Rev. John Trumbull . Westbury.

Rev. Stephen Johnson . Lyme.

Rev. Moses Mather . . Stamford.

Rev. Elizur Goodrich . Durham.

Rev. Sam<sup>l</sup> Lockwood . Andover.

Rev. Tim<sup>o</sup> Pitkin . . Farmington.

Absent, Rev. Warham Williams . Northford.

Rev. Nath<sup>l</sup> Taylor . . New Milford.

6. The Corporation unanimously elected me *Professor of Ecclesiastical History* in conjunction with the Presidency. I at length observed that as they were divided between M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich & myself as to the Presid<sup>y</sup>. at their Choice in Sep<sup>t</sup> I desired to know whether they were all so satisfied that I might not only rely upon their unanimous Acquiescence which they had repeatedly expressed, but whether I might depend on their Cordiality if I came into that venerable Body? Their Answer was not only Nem. Con. but in general they spoke out & I think one & all the most express approbation. Indeed there were but two present but what voted for me at first (except two new ones who expressly approved), & they expressed their hearty concurrence; all saying they were fully convinced that I had the public voice.

In the Course of our Interview, I very fully laid before them all my own Deficiencies, & what they must not expect from me; particularly my infirm Health, want of Talents for Gov<sup>t</sup>, doubts of becoming accept<sup>a</sup> to the Pastors, the Assembly, the public, and many other Things. I also communicated to them my sentiments in Religion, both with respect to the *System of Theology*, and *Ecl. Polity*, & desired them particularly to consider wherein I coincided with & differed from others. I did this in all Sincerity as in the presence of God. I requested them to take full Knowledge of me on these & all other acco<sup>ts</sup>, & wished them to interrogate me to their intire satisfaction. They heard me till they said they were satisfied.

They requested my answer. I told them I wished to take longer time to wait upon the public, that if there were any considerable Dissatisfaction for any reason whatever I might know it, & this

would determine me in the negative ; because I could not think of undertak<sup>g</sup>. unless with a good prospect of being acceptable & sitting as easy in the Chair, as such a Cella Curulis would admit of. Other weighty reasons concurred, as wait<sup>g</sup> for the Voice of my Flock & of the Assoc. & the Result of a Negotiation between the Assembly and Corpor<sup>n</sup> respecting additional Professorships. So we concluded I shd. defer my Answer till towards Spring ; when they proposed I shd. remove my family to New Haven and enter upon Office. I have endeavored to act on this momentous Affair in the most prudent manner, & with Deliberation ; well knowing it to be very weighty & important. May the Father of Lights the fountain of unerring Wisdom impart Light, Guidance & a final Decision so as shall be for his Glory and my Usefulness. Amen.

Yale College was founded A.D. 1700. The number of Students undergraduates in the 4 classes collectively in particular years has been nearly as follows.

| A.D.             | Undergrad. | Rectors & Presidents.                                   |
|------------------|------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| 1702 . . .       | 8 . . .    | Rector Pierson Elected Nov. 11, 1701 & took the office. |
| 1707 . . .       | 16 . . .   | Rector Pierson ob. Apr. 1707.                           |
| 1719 . . .       | 37 . . .   | Rector Cutler Elected March 1719 &c.                    |
| 1722 . . .       | 46 . . .   | " " dismissed Oct. 17, 1722.                            |
| 1726 }<br>1727 } | 58 . . .   | Rector Williams installed Sept. 1726. Elected 1725.     |
| 1739 . . .       | 68 . . .   | " " Resigned Oct. 31.                                   |
| 1740 . . .       | 82 . . .   | Pres. Clap installed Apr. 2, 1740. Elected 1739.        |
| 1766 . . .       | 120 . . .  | " " Resigned at Commencement.                           |
| 1777 . . .       | 125 . . .  | Ezra Stiles Elected Sept. 11, 1777.                     |

The highest number of undergraduates in

|                                         |     |
|-----------------------------------------|-----|
| Rector Pierson's Time, about . . . . .  | 19  |
| Interregnum, 1715 . . . . .             | 24  |
| Rector Cutler's Time . . . . .          | 61  |
| Rector Williams's Time . . . . .        | 82  |
| Pres <sup>t</sup> Clap's Time . . . . . | 170 |
| Interregnum, 1776 . . . . .             | 180 |
| 1777 . . . . .                          | 125 |

A Large Class graduated Sept. 10, 1777, and many Students entered the Army, & others left College on account of its broken state & Expences in these tumultuous times ; and but 20 Freshmen entered this year. So that in Nov. 1777 I found but 125 in the 4 Classes ; so that above 30 must have left the Classes. Harvard College now has but 111 Undergraduates. The public Calamities & Tumults affect all the Colleges.

7. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> having adjourned to 3<sup>d</sup> Tuesd<sup>y</sup> Dec. next this morning returned home. I visited the Ministers in the Town of New Haven. Rev. Mr. Whittelsey<sup>1</sup> tells me that after the Danbury Affair in Apr. last there remained Seventy five Thousd. Barrels of Provision stored for the Army only in Connecticutt. Rev. Mr. Mather<sup>2</sup> of N. H. tells me that the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Grosvenor<sup>3</sup> of Scituate lately travelled into Connecticutt & says the Choice is universally approved in that part of Massach. where all are sorry I was not at Harvard College. M<sup>r</sup> Eliot<sup>4</sup> of B<sup>n</sup> Son of Rev. Dr. Eliot told M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey the same; & that the only Reason was because I was of another College. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Edwds<sup>5</sup> of N. H. tells me there are 3 parties in Connect. all pleased with my Election, viz. Arminians w<sup>c</sup> he s<sup>d</sup> were a small party, the new Divinity Gent. (of w<sup>c</sup> he s<sup>d</sup> he was called one) w<sup>c</sup> were larger he said but still small, and the main Body of the Ministers which he said were Calvinistic. Tho' he said a Gentleman observed that either the Arm. or Calv. would be greatly disappointed in me. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Bird<sup>6</sup> of N. H. (emeritus or out of the Min<sup>y</sup>) in a very friendly manner laid before me the Difficulties & Discouragements & Impossibility of giving Satisfaction to the College or the Public, such Difficulties he apprehended any Man must expect to encounter. He for himself approved, but was cautious not to urge with the Importunity of others. His advice was friendly and weighty.

8. Rode to Carmel. M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>—— a Scotch Merch<sup>t</sup> says, & I believe on good Authority, "that (as in Jamaica) the Scotch had got *Two Thirds of Virginia & Maryld.* mortgaged or otherwise engaged to them or was *owned in Scotland* :—and that the Continent owes G. Brit. *six Millions Sterling.*" Not that American (non-factor) Merchants owe G. B. 6 Mill.—but that the Am<sup>o</sup> of what belongs to G. B. partly from Merchants trad<sup>e</sup> on their own Acc<sup>o</sup>,

<sup>1</sup> Chauncey Whittelsey (Yale 1738), pastor of the First Church in New Haven from 1758 to 1787: Dr. Stiles' old College tutor.

<sup>2</sup> Allyn Mather (Yale 1771), pastor of the Fair Haven Church in New Haven from 1773 to 1784: theologically in sympathy with Dr. Stiles.

<sup>3</sup> Ebenezer Grosvenor (Yale 1759).

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Andrew Eliot (Harvard 1762), of Fairfield, Conn.

<sup>5</sup> The younger Jonathan Edwards (Princeton 1765), pastor of the White Haven church in New Haven from 1769 to 1795, and later President of Union College: a leading adherent of the "New Divinity," with which Dr. Stiles had little sympathy.

<sup>6</sup> For Samuel Bird see above, May 19, 1772.



chiefly from Factors for the B. Merch<sup>ts</sup> who take Mortgages Bonds & Notes & have Book Debts all in their own Names & yet ultimately belong<sup>g</sup> to the Merch<sup>ts</sup> in Britain and partly by immense Landed Interests in America already in the hands of Europe as Jamaica is — there is a *general Debt* to G. B. & chiefly to the Scotch there of 5 or 6 Mill. sterlg.

I believe it is too high: however it was become enormous and very alarming. I have had it often suggested to me by Scotch Merch<sup>ts</sup> & Factors that the Scotch would in a very few years have all the Property in Virginia if not in gen. of N<sup>o</sup> America. A year or 2 before Hostilities Virg. & Maryld. only paid Interest for a Million sterlg. stand<sup>g</sup> Debt to G. B. chiefly Scotland. I am prehensive that the *Six Million* Property in America includes the W. Indies. I take this to be the Estimate of some of the Knowing Ones.

9. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel & rode after Sunset to N<sup>o</sup> Haven. Visited my aged Mother-in-law Stiles<sup>1</sup> & my Brother & Friends at North Haven.

10. Rode again to New Haven. M<sup>r</sup> Whiting, Chandler, Darling, Fitch,<sup>2</sup> & other Gent. in N. H. urge me to accept. D<sup>r</sup> Carlington says G. Wash. Army at march<sup>g</sup> through Philadel<sup>a</sup> were 7033 exclusive of officers; add Sullivans Brig<sup>a</sup> w<sup>o</sup> followed, & Nashes D<sup>o</sup> of 500—that at the Battle of Brandywine *our Army was Ten Thousd, the Enemys Twelve Thousd.* The Enemys Fleet 310 sail in Chesepeak. He estimates the Armies now in Nov., Gen. Howes in Philadel<sup>a</sup> *Fifteen Thousd*, Gen. Wash. *not Twenty Thousd.* The Tories gen<sup>s</sup> estimate the En<sup>y</sup> 18 Th. ours 13 or 14 Thousd. I saw some of the Sandemanian Brethren who were lately imprisoned in N. Haven for their Declar<sup>a</sup> in Favor of the King & ag<sup>t</sup> America. They are embark<sup>g</sup> for L. Isld.

11. I left New Haven. I have engaged some Beds & furniture conditionally, if I shd. return: and also 2 Chaises & a Wagon to be sent to meet me & my family at Boston next Spring, if it please God we shd. live & then remove hither. Visited Rev. Warham W<sup>m</sup><sup>s</sup> of Northford one of the Corpor<sup>a</sup>, who encouraged my Acceptance.

<sup>1</sup> Esther (Hooker), step-mother of the diarist, now 75 years old.

<sup>2</sup> These were associates of Dr. Stiles's College days,—Judge John Whiting and Judge Thomas Darling (both Yale 1740) having then been Tutors, and Joshua Chandler (Yale 1747) and Jonathan Fitch (Yale 1748) undergraduates.

12. Dr. Dana of Wallingford urged my acceptance.—He repeated to me some Things respect<sup>s</sup> Harvard Coll.

13. At Brother Hubbards in Meriden. Dined at Durham. Mr. Goodrich<sup>1</sup> says some doubts at the Assoc. at Branf<sup>d</sup> last month whether I should not favour D<sup>r</sup> Dana too much. M<sup>r</sup> Street of East Haven made the same Remark. M<sup>r</sup> Good<sup>r</sup> has no prospect of a Coalescence of Assembly with the College, unless the govern<sup>ts</sup> supreme Power over College be surrendered to the Assembly. M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> of the same Opinion; & consequently that nothing will come of the Overtures depending. Assembly adjourned to the 2<sup>d</sup> Thursdy or 8<sup>th</sup> Jany. next, when they may receive the Report of the Committee.

14. Shoing Horse 4 Doll. Barbers 1/

At Middletown, visited Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Huntington & M<sup>r</sup> Hosmer<sup>2</sup> Speaker of Connectt. Assembly. Both say my Election gives universal Satisfaction both to the Assembly & public. I waited on Col. Hamlin<sup>3</sup> one of the Council who says the same. Mr. Hosmer engages to procure £1000. L.M. addition to the Library of Yale Coll. either by Assembly or Subscription if I accept;<sup>4</sup> he says one gentleman who had made £20000 this War, offered to subscribe £200. He thinks there is prospect of Success respecting the proposed additional Professorships. I asked him whether if the Modes of Appointment of Professors endowed by Assembly, was thus viz. the Corpor<sup>a</sup> to elect and present to the Gov. & Council or Assembly, & on their Approb<sup>a</sup> the Election to be complete & not without—whether this would be agreeable to the Assembly? he sd. yes: whether this would be sufficient to engage the Assembly cordially to College? he hesitated—but did not doubt if I came, but matters might be amicably adjusted: & said they had no Desire either to remove College or alter the Charter.

At Middletown, Ten Thousd Gallons of Stalk Juice delivered in this fall to one distillery which distilled near a Thousd Gall. good Rum. Ordinary Ratio twelve Gall. Juice yield one Gall. Sp<sup>t</sup> or Rum.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Elizur Goodrich (Yale 1752), the minister of Durham, and a Fellow of the Yale Corporation. The fact that he had himself been considered as a candidate for the Presidency never in the least disturbed his cordial relations with Dr. Stiles.

<sup>2</sup> Enoch Huntington (Yale 1759); Titus Hosmer (Yale 1757).

<sup>3</sup> Jabez Hamlin (Yale 1728).

<sup>4</sup> He died suddenly in August, 1780, before he had been able to carry out this intention.

At Glassenbury I visited Mr Professor Strong and M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Baldwin. The Junior & Freshmen Classes are here under their Tuition—Mr. Tutor Lewis has the Soph. Class at Farmington — M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Buckminster is to have the Senior Class at New Haven. I saw the Junior Class being at Recitation with M<sup>r</sup> Baldwin and made a Speech to them. M<sup>r</sup> Wells<sup>1</sup> tells me College wants Regul<sup>a</sup> for they have left the more solid parts of Learn<sup>g</sup> & run into Plays & dramatic Exhibitions chiefly of the comic kind & turn'd College says he into Drury Lane. Rode to East Hartford & lodged with Rev M<sup>r</sup> Williams, who gave me a particular Acc<sup>o</sup> of my Election & how effected.

15. Dined at Mr. Lockwood's & rode to Lebanon.

16. Ldsdy, I preached at Lebanon. . . . .

17. Waited on his Excellency Gov. Trumbull, (who is a good Hebrician to this day) who invited me to Breakfast. I observed to him that as I was invited to an important office within the State over which he presided, I held my duty to pay my Respects to the first Magistrate & refer myself to his Wisdom & Advice in the Affair. He with the greatest Appearance of Cordiality & Satisfaction approved, wished me to accept, & assured me all the kind Offices in his power & his Influence with the Assembly. His Idea is that to engage the Assembly, not the Charter to be changed, but four Civilians be chosen into the next Vacancies in the Corporation of Yale Coll. Nothing short will give radical Healing & Satisfaction.

After Breakfast I took my Leave of the Governor & rode in a snow storm to Mansfield, dined at Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Salters. Terrible snow storm at Night, lodged in Ashford.

18. Dined & lodged at Woodstock with my aged uncle Rev. Abel Stiles.<sup>2</sup> Excessive cold.

19. Dined at Oxford 5/.

20. This day a Gen<sup>l</sup> Thanksgiving through Mass. & Connecticut. I preached at Westboro in Mass. for Rev<sup>d</sup> & venerable M<sup>r</sup> Parkman on Gen. xlix, 22–26. The people immed<sup>y</sup> requested a copy for the Press, but the Sermon being a hasty production only a few minutes of that Mornings Composition & mostly extempore, I declined it. M<sup>r</sup> Parker persuaded me to accept the Presidency.

Having now passed thro' Connect. I observe that I have visited phps 100 principal persons there, I have diligently inquired the

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Welles (Yale 1751), formerly a Tutor in College.

<sup>2</sup> A graduate of Yale in 1733, now in his 69th year.



Opin. of others thro'out the State—All I have seen have advised my Accept<sup>a</sup> & most of them with great urgency—In all Connect. I have heard of but one Gentleman that disapproves the Choice, (& it shd seem that from this extensive Inquiry I might perceive any consid. Dissatisfaction, which none of the Gent. Friends or Enemies have yet suffered me to perceive tho I have earnestly entreated them to shew it me) and he is the Hon. Col. Davenport<sup>1</sup> of Stanford a Gent. of Learning & great Merit. He says the Corpor<sup>a</sup> have done wrong in electing me; they should have chosen M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Dwight. He is of the Council and against enlarging the College Funds, judging that smaller Colleges are more advantageous for Education than larger Seats of Learning.

Mr. Parkman gave me an account of Pres. Leveretts Presidency at Harv. Coll. where he was educated under him.<sup>2</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Parkman shewed me a Volume of his Academic Manuscript containg Copies of *Brattles Logic*, *Leveretts Philosophy* or Physics, *Flynths Geography* &c. Mr. Leverett was a fine classic Scholar but seldom made public Orations, not so often as Mr. Holyoke. Mr. Leverett great and awful in Government.

21. Dined at Sudbury 4/6. Arrived at Cambridge. Lodged at Judge Trowbridges.<sup>3</sup> & spent the Eveng. at Prest. Langdons in Comp<sup>a</sup> with 2 of the Tutors.<sup>4</sup>

22. G. *Burgoyne* & his Army are now prisoners here & in the Barracks on Prospect Hill &c. I did not see the General tho I saw & conversed with several of his Officers & some of the privates. I asked a private, what Impression the News of the Battle of Bennington & our Victory over Col. Bowm had upon the Army? he said they knew noth<sup>s</sup> of it—the Officers concealed it from the Troops, who he said heard noth<sup>s</sup> of it till they received it from us. One of Burgoynes Hessian Officers I think a field Officer told me his Army now at Cambridge were 2200 Brit. & 1500 Hessians (600)

<sup>1</sup> Abraham Davenport (Yale 1732). He had already discerned the distinguished promise of Timothy Dwight, whose mother was a first cousin of Mrs. Davenport.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Ebenezer Parkman was graduated in 1721. President John Leverett was in office from 1708 to 1724.

<sup>3</sup> Edmund Trowbridge (Harvard 1728), Judge of the Superior Court of Massachusetts, 1767-75 See Publications of the Colonial Society of Mass., V, 74-77.

<sup>4</sup> It appears from another entry in the Itinerary that these were Caleb Gannett (Harvard 1763) and Benjamin Guild (Harvard 1769). Mr. Gannett married Dr. Stiles's daughter Ruth in 1800, as his second wife.

& Waldeckers (900)—Another British told me his Regt. came from Britain last Spring 550, now they could not parade 200.—At Lyn I dined with a Man who left *Red Bank* below Philad<sup>a</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Instant. [G. Hunt. Lett to Gov. Trumbull. dated 10 Nov. fr. Phil<sup>a</sup>.]

23. Ldsdy at Ipswitch Hamlet. I preached for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Cutler Isai. 45, 25. P.M. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Fuller of C. Ann preached from Rom. v.

24. Lodged at Rev. Mr Noyes's in Salisbury.

25. Stormy, reached Rev. Mr. Macclintoc's in Greenl'd.

26. Arrived at Portsmouth & found all my seven Children well. Deo opt. max. Grates. [Finished these Entries Dec. 23, 1777.] . . .

Gov. Trumbull says, the Cont. Currency *Thirty Million Dollars*. [M<sup>r</sup> Sherman says Ten Million pounds L. M.]

Gen. Gates's No. Army 7 or 8000—the 19<sup>th</sup> of Sept. 1777

18,000—the 17<sup>th</sup> Oct.—rather 14,000.

By Conflux of Militia said to be Addition of Ten Thous'd in a week or ten Days, or from 7<sup>th</sup> to 17<sup>th</sup> Oct.

#### FIRST CHH IN SALISBURY, MASSACH. BAY.

Rev. Wooster first Rector. From him descended Gen. Wooster.

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Wheelwright of Boston—did not die in Salisb<sup>y</sup>.

Rev. James Allen ord. May 4, 1687. ob. march 1695/6 æt. 37.

Rev. Caleb Cushing ord. Nov. 9, 1698. ob. Jany. 25, 1752, æt. 80.

Rev. Edmund Noyes ord. Coll. Nov. 20, 1751. Ex ore ejus.

Second Chh. gathered 1717.

Rev. Joseph Parsons ord. Oct. 1717. ob. 1740.

Rev. Saml Webster ord Aug. 12, 1741. Living.

#### YALE COLLEGE. INCOMES OR REVENUES.

|                                                               |      |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| Tuition @ £4 7 <sup>8</sup> . ann. Say 125 Students . . . . . | £500 |
| Land Leases soon £260 . . Now . . . . .                       | 160  |
| Funds £1200. in Cont. Loan. Off. Interest . . . . .           | 76   |
| Conting <sup>t</sup> Charges 10/8 a Scholar . . . . .         | 65   |

£801. L. M.

Besides Some Allow<sup>a</sup> fr. Assembly.

#### Salaries to be paid

|                                         |      |
|-----------------------------------------|------|
| President's . . . . .                   | £160 |
| Professor of Div <sup>y</sup> . . . . . | 90   |
| Professor of Math &c . . . . .          | 70   |
| Three Tutors at £70 . . . . .           | 210  |

£530

27. I married Gideon Sampson of Exeter & Elizabeth Griffith of Portsmouth.

28. Hon. Jn<sup>o</sup> Hancock Esq. Prest. &c arrived at Boston 20<sup>th</sup> Inst. Thanksg.

29. Pres. Langdon Visited me.

30. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Ps. cvi, 4, 5. P.M. Rev. Pres. Langdon preached. . . . .

December.

1. My Son Ezra (Vacation at Harvard College) began to study Law with Hon. Judge Parker of Portsm<sup>o</sup> and Son Isaac began to go to M<sup>r</sup> Adams's Grammar School.

2. Rev<sup>d</sup> Pres. Langdon born at Boston Jany. 1722/3.

3. I drafted a Plan of an University, particularly describing the *Law & Medical Lectures*<sup>1</sup>: at the Desire of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale, to be by them laid before the Committee of the General Assembly of Connect. appointed to consider among other Things whether it be expedient to found these 2 Professorships.

4. Anniversary Fast by Order of the Council & Representatives of the State of N. Hampshire. D<sup>r</sup> Langdon preached for me all day. . . . .

5. Excessive cold: Therm. 15 at Noon. M<sup>r</sup> — left N. York about 20<sup>th</sup> ult. says Gen. Vaughan left N. York after the Conflagr<sup>a</sup> of Esopus & went to reinforce G. Howe with *four Battalions* which they called 2800 Men—I judge 1600 or 2000. For G. Burgoynes six Brit. Reg<sup>ts</sup> when they fell into our hands was only 2400 includ<sup>d</sup> Officers.

6. Three or 4000 Enemy landed at Bridport 19<sup>th</sup> ult.—great Movements of both Armies.

7. Ldsdy. D<sup>r</sup> Langdon preached A.M. on Luke xxiv, 30, 31, and he and myself joyntly administered the Lord's Supper to about 50 or 60 Communicants. He made an introduct<sup>y</sup> Speech, read the Institution in Corinthians, consecrated the Elements Bread & Wine, made a Prayer—then he brake one Loaf and I brake two Loaves, the Doctor speaking during the break<sup>s</sup> of the Bread—he then delivered the Bread to the Deacons & they to the Communicants. Then all sat down & partook in silence. Then I took a Flagon & made a Prayer. Then each took a Flagon & poured out till we had fill<sup>d</sup> six Cups, when at my Desire the Doctor delivered

<sup>1</sup> A copy of this plan is preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers.





The whole of the *Enemys Northern Army* in the year 1777 about Ten Thousd. Three Reg<sup>ts</sup> were left in Canada or North of Ticonderoga. Perhaps 1000 with G. at the Stanwix Department ; and 8 or 9000 with Burgoyne. This whole Army is discomfited and broken up. The Idea of Congress is thus.

“IN CONGRESS NOV. 4 1777.

Resolved, That the thanks of Congress in their own Names & in behalf of the Inhab. of the 13 United States be presented to Maj. Gen. Gates Commander in Chief in the Northern Departm<sup>t</sup>, and to Majors Gen. Lincoln and Arnold, and the rest of the Officers & Troops under his Command, for their brave & successful Efforts in support of the Independence of their Country, whereby an Army of the Enemy of *Ten Thousand* Men has been totally defeated, one large detachment of it, strongly posted and entrenched, having been conquered at Bennington, & another repulsed with Loss & Disgrace from F<sup>t</sup> Schuyler, and the main Army of *Six Thousd* men, under L<sup>t</sup> Gen. Burgoyne, after being beaten in different actions, & driven from a formidable Post & Strong Entrenchments, reduced to the Necessity of surrendering themselves upon Terms honorable & advantageous to these States, on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of Oct. last to Maj. Gen. Gates ; and that a Medal of Gold be struck, under the direction of the Board of War, in Commemoration of this great Event, & in the Name of these United States presented by the President to Major Gen. Gates.”

I think the Congress erred in the designed omission of Gen. Starks.

12. I was in Company with L<sup>t</sup> General the Baron de *Steuben*, who came over in the last Ship from France which arrived here the 8<sup>th</sup> Instant. He is ph. æt. 50 ; was born in Suabia & is a German. He served under the King of Prussia last War & has been in his Service 22 years. He was Aid de Camp to the King of Prussia, then Qu<sup>r</sup> Mast. General—& now L<sup>t</sup> Gen. in his service. He comes over strongly recommended to Congress and Gen. Washington by D<sup>r</sup> Franklin & M<sup>r</sup> Deane our Commissioners at Paris.

Yesterday I read the Bag of Letters taken in a late prize brot in here, bound from London to Halifax. Two things I remark in those Letters which are of July & Aug. dates. 1. That the Amer. Privateers are very harrassing all around G. Britain, affecting Insurance & Trade much higher than we imagined. One Letter com-

pare them to the many headed Hydra, no sooner do they take one, than it is succeeded by a dozen more, who come into the Harbors boldly, & from one in particular cut out & carried off three Vessels. The Western Coast of Scotland are alarmed with the Fear & Dread of our setting Fire to their Maritime Towns,—so they feel as they have made Americans feel. 2. They are full of Pacification, longing for Reconciliation. And it is very apparent from many of the Merch<sup>ts</sup> Letters that the Min<sup>y</sup> have given them with certainty to expect a Reconciliation this Campaign. But few Letters talk of *Subjugation*, many of Reconciliation. Some also discover Dispair. The Refugees are unhappy—altho the Mandamus Refugee Councillors have a pension of £200 & for a Wife £50 & every Child £20. Yet this will not maintain them in London, & so they must bury their Importance in this Country. Rev. Dr Caner<sup>1</sup> has only £60 and if this Campaign is unsuccessful says he never expects to see his native Land again. Gov. Hutchinson was living in Engld last August, but with his family in the Country. The Merchants begin to feel in reality.

14. Ldsdy. I preached on Heb. xi, 5, 6. P.M. 2 Cor. iv, 18, a funeral Sermon on Major John Flagg æt. 50 who died 9<sup>th</sup> Inst.

Joseph Pitman & George Pendexter owned the Covenant, & I baptized William Son of the former & Francis of the latter. . . . .

15. It is said the Enemy have got Red Bank & the Cheveaux de frize, & passed with 3 Ships up to Philadelphia. This Aft. I baptized an Adult Negro Man, *Boston*, Serv<sup>t</sup> of Richard Hart on a dying bed—he first confess<sup>d</sup> the sin of ante-nuptial fornication & owning the Cov<sup>t</sup> before four members of the Chh. in full Communion. He was not propounded publicly.

16. Attended a maritime Court.

17. Dined at Judge Parkers in Comp<sup>a</sup> with the Hon. John Adams of the Continental Congress. He is here as Attorney in the Maritime Court. In the Convers<sup>a</sup> he said the Body of the Quakers in Pensylv<sup>a</sup> were not so inimical as had been represented. He does not want an European War. He thinks the Merchants Debts among warring Nations sacred.

In the Eveng. I married Dan<sup>l</sup> Hodsdon of Berwick & Sarah

<sup>1</sup> Henry Caner (Yale 1724), Rector of King's Chapel, Boston, died in exile in England in 1792.



Wooster of Kittery, both of Massachusetts Bay,<sup>1</sup> hav<sup>e</sup> Certificates of public<sup>a</sup> in both Towns.

18. Day of public Thanksgiving throughout the United States recommended by Congress & appointed & Proclamations issued by the Assemblies. A.M. & all day I preached upon Gen. xlix, 22-26. An Anthem closed the Afternoon Service. This is the first Continental Thanksgiving.

I spent the Eveng. at Gen. Whipples & in Company with Hon. John Adams Esq. & two French Gentlemen. The Plan of Confederation is finished by Congress & sent to the several States for Approb<sup>a</sup> & Establishment. The President is to be elected annually by the Members—the Congress to be elected annually by the Assemblies & revocable at pleasure—the Congress votes by States, a plurality of States to carry it, yet in some matters 9 States out of 13 must concur.

M<sup>r</sup> Adams tells me that Mr. Hancocks Election to the Presidency was not repeated but he continued along of Course till he returned to Boston. He says M<sup>r</sup> Laurence<sup>2</sup> is altogether an excellent Character,—that he may be about 56 ætatis, was born in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, educated with a Merchant in London & afterwards was in Partnership with him—then he settled in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> & in Trade has acquired a great Estate—he made the Tour of Europe—was at Geneva, and became so highly pleased with that Republic that he sent a Son to the University there to receive his Education, which Son is just returned & is now in Gen. Wash. Army—that M<sup>r</sup> Laurens is a thoro' Republican. In 1774 the Southern Members of Congress were monarchical & started at any Republican Hints—they have now lost all Ideas of the one & are full in the other.

Mr. Adams has a high Opin. of the Wisdom of our Ancestors as civilians. He says, Policy & Gov<sup>t</sup> were better studied & understood last Century than this, that our N. E. Civilians were acquainted with Harrington & drank deep of the System or Principles of the Oceana—that their Regulations as to *Schools*, *Religion* & *Militia* were wise beyond all parallel & could not be amended. He said when they first met in Congress the S<sup>o</sup> Gentlemen were very shy & cautious about Religion, were afraid the Northern Religion was a weighty Motive, & they had an Idea of

<sup>1</sup> Berwick and Kittery were in the District of Maine, which was part of Massachusetts until 1820.

<sup>2</sup> Henry Laurens, chosen President of Congress, Nov. 1, 1777.

New Engld as most rigid & contracted in their religious Establishments. But when they came to look into our Estab. they acknowledged them more catholic and generous than the Southern Estab. & that they were the rigid & contracted ones & the N. Engld. the only liberal ones. Accord<sup>y</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Adams says the southern States have in their new Policies estab. universal religious Liberty—& he says Episcopacy is dropt, but this I doubt. At all Events however it is easy to foresee univ. Lib<sup>y</sup> for all religious Sects in America.

M<sup>r</sup> Sewall<sup>1</sup> of York just from Mass. Assembly shewed me the new Constitution for Mass. reported by a Committee of (Assembly resolved into a) Convention—& now under Consideration. Its Legislature to consist of two Branches, *Senate*, & *Representatives*, both annually elective by the pple, as well as a Gov<sup>r</sup> & L<sup>t</sup> Governor, in this manner. The Gov. & L<sup>t</sup> Gov. by all the pple. at large æt. 21, thro' the State, in May annually: the *Senate* of 30 inclusive the Gov. & L<sup>t</sup> Gov.—whereof 28 to be ann<sup>y</sup> elected from five Districts, but by all the pple at large, after a preparatory popular Nomination in Nov<sup>r</sup> preceding: the Representat<sup>a</sup> to be annually elected in Towns as usual. Judges of Courts, Ministers, Justices, not to be eligible into the Legislature. Two Voices only viz. of *Senate* & *Represent<sup>a</sup>* make an Act. Judges & Justices to hold office dur<sup>e</sup> good Behavior. To be eligible as Gov. a Man must have an Estate of £500: a Senator an Estate of £400; a Represent<sup>a</sup> £100.

M<sup>r</sup> Adams told me one Mark of the Jealousy of our Forefathers as to their Rights, that upon receiving the new Charter in 1692 Mass. Ass. enacted *Magna Charta* and estab. the *Common Law* by act of Assembly. But both these were disallowed by the Crown, which shews the mutual Jealousy of both. Great Expectations & noble Ideas of Gov<sup>t</sup> & policy possessed our Ancestors.

M<sup>r</sup> Adams spake of M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull, Treas<sup>r</sup> of Yale Coll.,<sup>2</sup> as qualified for a Professorship in Law.—M<sup>r</sup> Adams does not desire a French or European War.

19. Rev. Peter Coffin<sup>3</sup> lately died at Exeter. He resigned the Ministry at Kingston a few years since.

<sup>1</sup> David Sewall (Harvard 1755), a classmate of the Hon. John Adams, and a son-in-law of Judge William Parker, of Portsmouth.

<sup>2</sup> John Trumbull (Y. C. 1767), Treasurer from 1776 to 1782, had studied law with Mr. Adams and was now in his 28th year, and a practicing lawyer in New Haven until the war broke up his business.

<sup>3</sup> A Harvard graduate of 1733; minister in East Kingston from 1739 to 1772.

20. M<sup>r</sup> Jno. Adams is appointed by Congress a Commissioner to joyn Dr. Franklin at the Court of Paris, in the Room of Mr. Deane.<sup>1</sup>

21. Ldsdy A. M. I preached on Isai. xi, 10. P.M. I Tim, i, 17, and baptized Elizabeth Infant Daughter of Hon. Col<sup>l</sup> John Langdon Speaker of the Assembly & his wife ;—he first owning the Covenant. Reading *Shaws* Farewel.

22. Dined at Gen. *Whipple's* who with Gen. Glover conducted G. Burgoyne & his Army prisoners from Saratoga to Cambridge. He gave me the particulars. He said that the Stores &c taken by G. Fellows (though not 1000 Bbls) was three Qu<sup>rs</sup> of the whole Burg. had—that when he surrendered Burgoyns Army had but one day's Store of Bread left & this bad—that Burg. told him he knew his fate twenty days before & had sent this Advice off in Letters to Europe Via Canada—that he shd be obliged to pub. his orders to justify himself—G. Whipple says Burg. knew of Gen. Vaughans Approaches up N<sup>o</sup> River, this Advice he recd. 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. & this delayed the Treaty w<sup>c</sup> was begun on 13<sup>th</sup> & the failure of Stores obliged him to surrender on the 17<sup>th</sup>. G. Whipple says we had about 5000 Militia on East side the River from Ft. Edward to Saratoga of w<sup>c</sup> 2000 at Ft. Edw<sup>d</sup> commanded by G. 1000 against Saratoga & at Batenkill commanded by G. Whipple, & 2000 between commanded by G. Fellows—this about one Third of the Army.—Two Thirds on West side commanded by Generals Arnold &c. &c.—The whole under G. Gates. He says what accelerated G. Gates accept<sup>e</sup> the Capitul<sup>a</sup> was a Letter from G. Putnam advis<sup>e</sup> the Approach of Vaughns Army so that he had Reason to suppose it at the Time of Signing at or near Albany, w<sup>c</sup> would necessitate a Division. G. Burgoyne says they have been deceived in every Inform<sup>a</sup> concern<sup>e</sup> America: & that no more *British* Troops will be sent to America. He said he knew he could not proceed 20 days before. Now G. Whipple says he had it in his power to have retreated 20 days before, & therefore supposes the Draw Battle at Saratoga of the 19<sup>th</sup> Sept. convinced him that he could not go forward, & his Orders were positive not to turn back—accord<sup>y</sup> an Officer told M<sup>r</sup> Whipple that as soon as they came to Ft. Edw<sup>d</sup> the Gen. told them they were not to retreat or return.

24. Dr. Cutter tells me a Story of the Quakers, w<sup>c</sup> he had from

<sup>1</sup> Adams tells in his Autobiography (*Works*, iii, 90) how he learned of this appointment as he was speaking in a case before the Court of Admiralty in Portsmouth.



one present at Gen. Washington's at the time. A Committee of some of the Quakers permitted by G. How came out of the City of Philadel<sup>a</sup> to G. Washington to vindicate themselves from Aspersions, saying they perceived that it was asserted among us that the Friends *assisted G. How*, and also *joyned him by taking up Arms*, both w<sup>c</sup> they said were false; they avowed *Neutrality*, & desired to return, but G. Wash. refused it, knowing well they could carry Intelligence. As they spake much of *Neutrality* & asserted it was the gen. sense of Friends, G. Cadwallader being present asked them whether M<sup>r</sup> ——— of or about Germant<sup>n</sup> was also a *Neutral*? they acknowledged he was a Friend & held the same neutral Sentiment with themselves. Upon w<sup>c</sup> G. Cadwallader told them this Anecdote, that he himself & another Officer riding not far from M<sup>r</sup> ——— House, M<sup>r</sup> ——— mistook them for the Kings Troops, & came up & spoke to them cordially & expressed his Joy upon their arrival on this side the Schuylkill, said he hoped now they should have Peace & Protection, & asked them to his house & urged them at least to ride up to the Door & he would bring out to them a Glass of Wine. They did so—& obs. that his Wife whispered him at the door. As he gave them the Wine, he told them his Wife said, that she had just heard that G. Cadwallader & another Rebel General had just passed & rode over the fields, and they might soon overtake them, point<sup>s</sup> the Way—G. Cadwallader said his horse failed—the Quaker instantly offered him his horse, w<sup>c</sup> G. Cadw. took, & rode off. Now says the General Cadw<sup>a</sup> I suppose Gentlemen the *Neutrality* of all the Quakers is of this kind.

25. This Day is observed by three Quarters of Xtendom in Commemor<sup>a</sup> of the Nativity of our blessed Savior.

26. It is said that Gen. Wash. complains of the Smallness of his Army & as ill supplied with Clothing; That he has but 8000 effective & 2 or 3000 non-effective; & that this is one reason of relinquishing the Cheveaux de Frize.

Mr. Langdon<sup>1</sup> escaped from N. York a fourteenight ago to day. He tells me the party or Corps w<sup>c</sup> went up N<sup>o</sup> River under Gen. Clinton (or rather Tryon & Vaughan) did not excede 1700, the En<sup>y</sup> called them but 1800; & that there were not left 1200. Yet he says they estimate that there are now at N. York 5000, at Philad<sup>a</sup> 15,000 Europeans. Dr. Cutter saw & counted the Transp<sup>ts</sup> in pass<sup>s</sup> Fishkill—there were but *seven* Transp<sup>t</sup> Ships & these were crouded,

<sup>1</sup> Woodbury Langdon; see above, Aug. 18, 1777.

he estimated the Total Contents 1200 Tons, & not above 2500 Men—the rest were store Vessels without Troops. A Tory from N. Y. estimated 3000 at N. York, 2000 at Newp<sup>t</sup>, 10,000 at Philad<sup>a</sup>, perhaps this is candid & not far from the Truth.

This Even<sup>g</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Marchant a Member of Congress & a Gent. of my Congreg<sup>n</sup> in Newp<sup>t</sup> dated at Providence Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> advising that the Season, & scattered Situation of my flock prevented a Meet<sup>g</sup> on 16<sup>th</sup> sufficient to act—& that Individuals seemed to leave the Affair of the Presidency with me. . . . .

28. Ldsday A.M. I preached Jno. xiv, 21. P.M. Mr. Clarke<sup>1</sup> preached. . . . .

29. Col. Langdon presented me with two yards of Genoa Velvet for a Jacket. The selling price here now is Twenty five Dollars Continental p yard. Tea is now 15 Doll. a p<sup>d</sup>. I had presented me to day 2<sup>lbs</sup> Tea, 2 Loafs Sugar, & Sundries to the amount of 70 Dollars, & inclusive the Velvet 120 Dollars. Wood is 15 Doll. a Cord, Ind Corn 2 Doll. p Bushel, Pork 1/6 Poultry 1/ the pound, Beef 9<sup>d</sup> & 1/ , Tea 12 Doll.

31. Capt Langdon who escaped from N. York City 12<sup>th</sup> ult. says G. Robinson of the En<sup>y</sup> intimated the prob<sup>y</sup> of a Negotiation this winter. Delusion !

In convers<sup>a</sup> with Mons. Lazare de Franey educated in the Univer<sup>y</sup> of Paris he gave me the follow<sup>g</sup> acc<sup>o</sup> very exaggerated. That the University consisted of ten Colleges & ten thousd Students—each College had 3 Professors of Lat. & Greek, 2 D<sup>o</sup> Humanity, 1 D<sup>o</sup> Rhetoric, 2 D<sup>o</sup> Philosophy.

Besides 1 Royal Coll. for learning foreigners the French Tongue.

1 Physical College

1 Jural College

2 Theological Colleges.

Theological Degrees given only in the Colleges of *Navarre*, or the *Sorbonne*, between which were perpetual Disputes. Cardinal de Rochefacault, ABp of Rouen æt. 70 is the present President or Head of Navarre. Perhaps in all the ten Colleges there may be one thous<sup>d</sup> Students.

The Rev. Sylvanus Conant Pastor of the First Chh in Middleboro' died there Dec. 9, 1777; æ. circa 55.

<sup>1</sup> John Clarke (Harvard 1774), son of Capt. John and Sarah (Pickering) Clarke, of Portsmouth. In 1777 he was introduced by Dr. Stiles to the Rev. Dr. Charles Chauncey, Pastor of the 1st Church in Boston, whose colleague he became.

Being absent from home a month in the fall, I omitted many important Occurrences. I now review the prints of Nov. and make some extracts. . . .

To the Second Congreg<sup>a</sup> Chh in Newport Rh. Isld.

BRETHREN & FRIENDS

I have requested a Meet<sup>s</sup> of as many of my dearly beloved Flock as can conveniently be collected under our present Dispersion, to lay before you an important Call which I have received to the Presidency of Yale College. By the Calamities of the present War we are broken up & scattered abroad; part of the Congregation being shut up in Newport, and the rest separated in distant Towns & different States, it is impracticable to obtain their Sense & Transactions as a Body upon this important Affair—which respects the Continuance or Dissolution of pastoral Relation. There remains no other Way, but to ask a Meeting of those who are out of the Town of Newport, & collect the sense of as many Individuals as may be obtained. I am not yet enough acquainted with the present State & Circumstances of Yale College, and the sense of the public upon my Election to determine my Judgment, whether I should consider it my Duty to ask your Consent to resign the Ministry among a people, from whom I have received so many Tokens of Friendship & Respect for above twenty years past. But as I am necessitated to give an Answer to the Rev<sup>d</sup> the Fellows of the College, I should be glad to know your Minds, and whether in Case, upon consulting with the Ministers of our Association and others, it should be the general Opinion that the Interests of Religion & Learning may be subserved by my Removal to the College at New Haven, whether I say, in that Case, you shall be pleased to assent & concur, both for yourselves & for the Chh. & Congregation collectively, as far as in these tumultuous times, you can be supposed to represent them? And if it be agreeable to you, I would ask you to leave the matter to my Determination, when I shall have informed myself fully upon the Affair; so that in case I should judge it my duty to accept the Call, I may first make a Resignation of the Ministry.

It is, Gentlemen, with very tender & sensible Regret that I think of parting with my beloved Flock; & should it take place, I pray that the Glory of G<sup>d</sup> may be the highest operative principle in my Breast, and that you may be happy in a more useful Pastor.

I am on a Journey into Connecticut. If I find any consider<sup>a</sup> Dissatisfaction there, I shall immed<sup>y</sup> decline the choice, and remain ready to return with you, when we shall be regathered at Newport. After the present Conflict is settled I doubt not my Congreg<sup>a</sup> will be regathered with Honor & Triumph, that G<sup>d</sup> will build us up more gloriously than ever, & visit us with Peace, Comfort, secular Prosperity, & especially spiritual & Evangelical Blessings, according to the days in which we have seen Affliction. You will be pleased to send me at Portsm<sup>o</sup>, the Result of your Meeting. Wishing you every Blessing, I am

Brethren

Your affectionate Pastor

Dighton Oct. 28, 1777.

EZRA STILES.

Communicated to my Flock.



1778.

January

1. Yesterday I finished the Bible, which I began last New Years day. I read it rather too expeditiously. This day I begin it again, meaning to read daily a chapter or two in the Old and another in the New Testament. This Even<sup>g</sup> I married Jn<sup>o</sup> Gunnison & Susanna Erixon. Afterwards I attended the sacramental Lecture at D<sup>r</sup> Havens Meet<sup>g</sup> house in turn, & heard the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Belnap<sup>1</sup> of Dover preach a New Years Sermon on Gen. xlvii, 9. It is said Gen. Sullivan has resigned.

2. Three Ministers Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Haven, Rev Mr. Stevens of Kittery, & Rev. Mr Belnap of Dover, were at my house: I laid before them the Affair of the Presidency, & asked their Advice & Council. They concurred in Opinion that it was my Duty to accept.

4. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on 1 Thess. iii, 12, 13, and administered the Sacrament to about 50 Communicants. P.M. a new years sermon on Job. xvi, 22, and baptized John Foster Son of B<sup>r</sup> William Brewster and Ruth his wife. And propounded Tobias Walker for own<sup>g</sup> the Covenant.

This Even<sup>g</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Storer (an Express) returned here from Congress. He left York T<sup>o</sup> on Christmas & so has been 10 days in riding about 450 Miles. He brot me a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> Ellery Member of Congress one of my Newp<sup>t</sup> Congreg<sup>a</sup> on the Subject of my accepting the Presid<sup>y</sup> & remov<sup>g</sup> to N. Haven. Printed Schedules of Articles of Confederation are dispersed over the Continent.

The begin<sup>g</sup> of Dec. last the whole Sum of Continental Curr<sup>y</sup> outstand<sup>g</sup> was *Ten Millions Lawful Money*: says M<sup>r</sup> Sherman of N. Haven. A Tax, he says, on all the United States equal to one shill<sup>g</sup> on the pound in Connect. would sink the whole in 12 years; the first Emission is to be redeemed by Gold & Silver 1782, the second 1786.

8. Writing a Sermon in Hebrew upon Ezra.

11. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. upon 2 Pet. iii, 17, 18. P.M. Ps. cxix, 133. and baptized three children viz. Jacob son of Henry Nutter & Margery his wife, Jn<sup>o</sup> Gaines son of David & Mary Brewster, Polly Daugh. of Jeremiah & Mary Hill. Also I propounded Mary wife of ——— for a confession & owning the Covenant. A very snowy day.

<sup>1</sup> Jeremy Belknap (Harvard 1762), afterwards of Boston.

16. . . . . I received a Letter from Rev. Dr. Chauncy with the Opinion of the Boston Ministers advising & pressing my Acceptance of the Presidency of Yale College. This day Notification of the 1st Parish in Portsm<sup>o</sup>. &c.

17. . . . . Examining the Articles of Confederation. Writing a Hebrew Sermon.

18. Lds dy. I preached A.M. on Rev. xv, 13. on occasion of the Death of Mrs. Jackson an aged Saint & truly of an excellent Character for Piety & Submission to the divine Will under Affliction. P.M. M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Haven jun. a candidate preached for me on Rom. Then I admitted Tobias Walker an Adult to the Profession of Religion & baptized him & also his 2 children John & William—with great Solemnity.

20. Writing a Lett. to M<sup>r</sup> Murray.

21. The Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Locke late President of Harvard College died last Thursday at Sherburne. This Afternoon I baptized privately Nathaniel Shannon Son of George Howe & Olive his Wife, being an Infant dangerously sick. [He had several children before baptized at Chh. of England tho' not a Communicant; & his Wife a Congregationalist had never owned the Covenant. However this Infant being sick I led the parents to profess Xty. own the Cov<sup>t</sup> & give up themselves & theirs unto God; this was done at home at the Time of administering the Ordinance. One other person present.]

22. Rec<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Murrays insulting Letter.

25. Lds dy, I preached at North Hill,<sup>1</sup> exchanging with Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Macclure. A.M. Jn<sup>o</sup>. iii, 7. P.M. Isai. xlv, 22.

26. Returned to Portsmouth. Last Saturday died Æ. 72. The Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Chase<sup>2</sup> Pastor of the Chh at New Castle.

27. It is said Gen. Lee is exchanged for Gen. Prescott. This day there was a parish Meeting of the Congregation to w<sup>c</sup> I am preaching; and this Afternoon the Hon. Jn<sup>o</sup> Sherburne, Deacon Penhallow, Dr Cutter, General Whipple, Cap<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Langdon, as a Committee waited upon me with the unanimous call of the Congregation to settle with them in the Work of the Ministry. . . . . This call at Portsm<sup>o</sup> is not only unsought by me, but contrary to express & repeated Desires that the Congregation would not pro-

<sup>1</sup> The town of North Hampton, originally North Hill Parish in Hampton.

<sup>2</sup> Stephen Chase (Harvard 1728), son of Joseph Chase, of Newbury, Mass., born Oct., 1705, installed at New Castle, Dec., 1750.

ceed to the Choice. But they earnestly & respectfully urge me to accept their Call. I have taken this important matter into Consideration till Wednesday of next Week. May the Father of Lights the fountain of unerring Wisdom illuminate my mind that I may discover & distinguish the path of Duty in this very important Exigency. How much do I need Wisdom!

28. Breakfasted with Gen. Starks (at Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Havens) who gave me an acc<sup>o</sup> of the Battle of Bennington. In the Afternoon attended the funeral of the Rev. Stephen Chase of New Castle, as one of the Bearers—six Ministers Bearers viz. Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Haven, Mr. Stevens, M<sup>r</sup> Macclintoc, M<sup>r</sup> Spring, M<sup>r</sup> Macclure & myself. The corps was carried into the Meetinghouse, D<sup>r</sup> Haven prayed—sung the funeral Thought<sup>1</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Stevens preached a funeral Sermon. The Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Chase<sup>2</sup> of Kittery, present as a Mourner. After Funeral I laid before the Ministers my Call at Portsm<sup>o</sup> & asked their Council. M<sup>r</sup> Chase & M<sup>r</sup> Stevens were clear for my accepting the Presidency: M<sup>r</sup> Spring was for my settling here. In the Even<sup>g</sup>. I went over to Kittery & lodged with M<sup>r</sup> Stevens & conversed fully on my case.

29. Returned but omitted the Lecture because of bad Weather. This Even<sup>g</sup> I wrote a Letter to the Boston Ministers asking their Advice: also Letters to Gov. Trumbull & to the senior Fellow of Yale College informing them the call I had received here.

30. This Even'g. I preached my Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lecture, Rom. xv, 13.

31. Deferred my Answer a fourt<sup>h</sup> night.

Feb.

1. Ldsdy. I preached all day upon Acts iii, 14, 15. Administered the Lds Supper to phps 50 Communicants. Mary Sharples made a Confession before the Chh. . . In the Afternoon she owned the Cov<sup>t</sup> before the Congregation. I then baptized 3 Infants viz. William Walker son of John Parrot & Deborah his Wife, Benjamin son of Pike & his Wife, & John Parker son of Jn<sup>o</sup> Sharples & Mary his Wife. Reading Lelands Xtian Revelation v. first. Mr Tutor Hall<sup>3</sup> Fellow of Harv. Coll. visited me this Evening.

<sup>1</sup> Watts's hymn beginning, "Hark! from the tombs a doleful sound," entitled *A Funeral Thought* by the author.

<sup>2</sup> Josiah Chase (Harvard 1738), born in Newbury, Mass., Nov., 1713, first pastor of the 2d Church in Kittery: probably a brother of Stephen Chase.

<sup>3</sup> Stephen Hall (Harvard 1765).



## MY CALL TO THE MINISTRY IN PORTSMOUTH.

“Rockingham SS. To the Wardens of the first Parish in Portsm<sup>n</sup> in said Co. of Rockingham.

GENTLEMEN

We the Subscribers Parishioners of s<sup>d</sup> Parish from the opp<sup>o</sup> we have had of knowing that Esteem in the minds of the Parishioners of this Parish that has very justly been conceived of the Person of the Rev. Dr. Stiles, his Abilities, Service & Usefulness in the Min<sup>y</sup> of the Gospel among us, that we should be wanting of Respect to so worthy a person, as well as Duty to ourselves as not in a public manner as a Parish to express it in our Desire of his settling with us in the Work of the Gospel Ministry (notwithstanding the Choice that has been made of him in the State of Connecticut to be President of the University at New Haven, which he has under Consideration). In this we shall act not repugnant but consistent with a firm Belief of the Universal Governm<sup>t</sup> and Disposal of div. Providence; and therefore request you will please to call a Meeting of said Parishioners as soon as may be, that their minds may be known in this matter, and if agreeable to them, to give the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles an Invitation to settle with us in the Work of the Gospel Ministry. Portsm<sup>n</sup> January the 14<sup>th</sup> Anno Domini 1778.

Samuel Cutts  
John Alcock  
John Moffatt  
Nahum Ward  
Timothy Ham  
N. M<sup>c</sup>Intyre  
A. R. Cutter

Moses Woodward  
John Langdon  
Nath<sup>l</sup> Treadwell  
R. Wibird Penhallow  
Woodbury Langdon  
John Parker  
John Furnald

Sam<sup>l</sup> Penhallow  
William Knight  
Jacob Treadwell  
Mark Nelson  
Jeremiah Libbey  
John Penhallow  
Supply Clap

A true Copy.

Attest Samuel Penhallow P. Clerk.

Rockingham ss. At a Meet<sup>s</sup> of the Parishioners of the first Parish in Portsmouth legally notified held at the North Meeting-house in s<sup>d</sup> Portsm<sup>n</sup> Tuesday Jany. 27<sup>th</sup> Anno Domini 1778, three o'clock P. M. in consequence of a Petition to the Wardens.

Voted, Hunking Wentworth Esq. Moderator.

The Petition being read, for which this meeting was called, viz. to give the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles an Invitation to settle with us in the Work of the Gospel Ministry in this Church and Congregation: And being put to *Vote*, if they will *give Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles an Invitation to settle with us in the Work of the Gospel Ministry?*

Passed *unanimously in the Affirmative*.

Voted That there be a Committee to inform the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles of the foregoing Vote.

Voted, That said Committee consist of five Persons.

Voted, That Capt. Woodbury Langdon, D<sup>r</sup> Cutter, General Whipple, John Sherburne Esq. and Dea. Penhallow be & hereby are a Committee for the purpose aforesaid.

Voted, That this Meeting be & hereby is adjourned to Thursday the 5<sup>th</sup> of Febr'y. next at 3 o'clock P.M. to receive the Report of s<sup>d</sup> Committee.

HUNK. WENTWORTH, Moderator.

A true Copy

Attest Samuel Penhallow P. Clerk''

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Jany. 29, 1778.

REV. SIR

I hoped before this to have rec<sup>d</sup> a Lett. from you on the Result of the Interview between the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale College & the Committee of the Gen<sup>l</sup> Assembly. This I think I may expect in a week or two. The dispersed state of my Rh. Isld. Flock prevented a competent Meeting on the 16<sup>th</sup> ult. and I am left to learn the Opinions of Individuals from their Letters—and these Opinions are different, & leave me, in some Embarrassment. My Difficulties are augmented by a unanimous Vote of the Congreg<sup>a</sup> to which I am now ministering, last Tuesday, giving me a Call to settle among them in the Work of the Ministry : which Call they urge in the most kind, respectful & pressing manner. This has proceeded intirely from themselves; they insisting to lay this matter before me for Consid. before I came to a Determin<sup>a</sup> upon the Call made me by the Reverend Corpor<sup>a</sup> to the Presidency of Yale College. I must therefore beg Leave to defer my answer a few weeks longer. I desire to be at the Disposal of Providence, whether in the Work of the Ministry (if the divine Jesus has any further service for me in the pastoral Office) or in the Presidency : in either of w<sup>o</sup> I wish to be devoted to the Service of the Churches. Be pleased, Sir, to write me an Answer, informing me whether there is any material Change in the aspect of the public as to my Election to the Presidency.

I am, D<sup>r</sup> Sir,

Y<sup>r</sup> affectionate B<sup>r</sup> & hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

REV. ELIPHALET WILLIAMS

EZRA STILES.

East Hartford.

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Jan. 29, 1778.

REV<sup>d</sup> SIR

The congreg<sup>a</sup> late your pastoral Charge have this week given me a unanimous Call to settle with them in the Work of the Ministry. This has proceeded intirely from themselves. I have only endeavored faithfully to discharge my duty in ministering among them in holy Things, without the remotest View of this Event. I esteem myself honored by their acceptance of my very imperfect Labors, & by the Unanimity with which they invite my continuance among them. I wish for Council, Wisdom & Direction to enable me to discern my Duty on the important Question, whether to encourage & accept this Call, or that to the Presid<sup>y</sup> of Yale College? I wish to know the Will of Gd, & how Heaven would have me to dispose of myself in this Exigency. This waits on you, Sir, requesting that you would be so obliging as to communicate to me your sentiments, & those of the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Appleton, upon this occasion.

I am, Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir,

Your unworthy Brother & most hum. Serv<sup>t</sup>

REV. PRESIDENT LANGDON.

EZRA STILES.

To the Rev<sup>d</sup> the Pastors of the Boston Association

GENTLEMEN

It has pleased Gd in his Providence that I am called to attend to two important Invitations at the same time ; on which I wish to be directed aright. For several Months I have had & still have under consideration the Presidency of Yale College. And this week the Congreg<sup>a</sup> to w<sup>e</sup> I am now ministering, have also done me the Honor of an unanimous Call to settle in the Work of the Ministry among them. This matter has proceeded, not from me, but intirely from themselves. I am utterly unworthy of these repeated applications ; and I pray Gd that I may be directed to a Determination which may be most for his Glory. I have tho't it prudent to ask Council of others, & beg Leave to request your Opinion & Advice ; & that you would afford me that Light, which your Know. & comprehensive View of the State of the Chhs, Religion & Learn<sup>g</sup>, will enable you to impart. I am, Gentlemen,

Your unworthy Fellow-Labourer

Portsm<sup>o</sup> 26 Jany. 1778.

EZRA STILES.

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Jany 29, 1778.

SIR

I have not yet rec<sup>d</sup> any acc<sup>o</sup> of the Issue of the proposed Interview between the Committee of the Gen. Assembly and the Corporation of Yale College. The Favor of the Assembly would have great weight in my Determination respecting the Presidency. It has pleased Gd. in his Provid. that I am called to attend to 2 import. Invitations at the same time. This week the Congreg<sup>a</sup> here to which I am now ministering in holy Things, have done me the honor of an unanimous Call to settle among them in the Work of the Ministry ; which Call they urge in the most kind, respectful & pressing manner. This matter has proceeded, not from me, but intirely from themselves. I am utterly unworthy of these respected & honorable Applications ; & I pray Gd. that I may be directed to that determin<sup>a</sup> w<sup>e</sup> may be most for his Glory. I wish to know the Will of Heaven & how God would have me dispose of myself in this Exigency. I greatly distrust my Abilities for the Presidency. I am conscious of many irremediable Defects. Shall I exchange the prospect of Happ. in the Ministry, for an Office full of weighty cares in w<sup>e</sup> it has been repeatedly proved to be impossible to give satisfaction ? Is there a *real* prospect of a Restor<sup>a</sup> of Harmony between the Assembly & the College ? of their buildg another College Edifice, augment<sup>g</sup> the Liby, complet<sup>g</sup> the phil. Apparatus & endow<sup>g</sup> Professorships ? Give me Leave, Sir, to ask your Advice & Council, & to request of you that Light w<sup>e</sup> your Know. & comprehensive View of Things will enable you to impart. I propose to give my Answer some time next Month. I am, Sir,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> very hum<sup>b</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

HIS EXCELL<sup>y</sup> GOV. TRUMBULL.

EZRA STILES.

2. This day went in Comp<sup>a</sup> with D<sup>r</sup> Haven & M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Clintoc to Exeter, where is to be an Association of the pastors of that Vicinity, who meet monthly. The Portsm<sup>o</sup> pastors are of another Association. We were on a Visit.



3. The Association being at leisure I took an opportunity to lay before them and the other Ministers assembled, the case of my two Calls in Providence, requesting them to communicate to me their sentiments upon it, that assisted by their Light, Council & Advice I might be enabled the better to discern the Path of Duty. The Ministers present were

|                                |           |                   |
|--------------------------------|-----------|-------------------|
| The Rev. Mr. Fogg <sup>1</sup> | . . .     | Pastor of         |
| Rev. Mr. Rogers                | . . .     | “ “ Exeter        |
| Rev. Mr. Trask <sup>2</sup>    |           |                   |
| Rev. Mr. Stevens               | . . . . . | Kittery           |
| Rev. Mr. Noyes                 | . . . . . | Salisbury         |
| Rev. D <sup>r</sup> Haven      | . . . . . | Portsmouth        |
| Rev. Mr. Thayer                | . . . . . | Hampton           |
| Rev. Mr. Macclintoc            | . . . . . | Greenland         |
| Rev. Mr. Mansfield             | . . . . . | Exeter first Chh. |

In general they were clear & full in their Advice that I should accept the Presidency. I had known the opinion of Mess<sup>rs</sup> Stevens, Haven & Macclintoc before. They all expressed their hearty Desire that I should settle in the Ministry in Portsm<sup>o</sup> but the College they thought was a superior Call. M<sup>r</sup> Fogg the Moderator æt. 65, & M<sup>r</sup> Noyes were clear & determinate & without hesitancy gave their Judgment for New Haven: M<sup>r</sup> Trask & M<sup>r</sup> Thayer joyned with the same Judgment, tho' with a second degree of Strength or positiveness: aged Mr. Rogers<sup>3</sup> æt. 73, expressed such a Love for me & such a Desire that I should stay at Portsm<sup>o</sup>, that tho' he considered the Import<sup>a</sup> of the Call at the College (having himself been Tutor & Fellow & concerned in the Election of M<sup>r</sup> Holyoke to the Presidency of Harv. Coll. 1737) yet the Call at Portsm<sup>o</sup> was also important, & he hoped another man might be obtained for the Presidency—and on the whole declined giving his positive advice, praying & wishing me to be refer'd to the Direction of God. M<sup>r</sup> Mansfield<sup>4</sup> was almost of his opinion, but on the whole gave his view tho' faintly for the College. I asked the opinion of other Gent. not in the Min<sup>y</sup>. who were present: M<sup>r</sup> Hall Fellow of Harv. Coll. was strong for my going to College.

<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah Fogg (Harvard 1730), of Kensington, N. H.

<sup>2</sup> Nathaniel Trask (Harvard 1742), of Brentwood, N. H.

<sup>3</sup> See this Diary, July 3, 1777.

<sup>4</sup> See this Diary, May 3, 1773.

4. We returned to Portsmouth. Here I found the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Lancton<sup>1</sup> of York, who advised me for the College.

5. It is said that the Canadians under Parole not to take up arms against America have enlisted in Gov. Carletons Army in Canada ; & that thereupon the Congress have ordered a Detention of Gen. Burgoyne till the King shall have ratified the Convention with Gen. Gates.

6. I have spent this day in private Fasting & Prayer & in supplicating the divine Guidance Influence & Direction in the great & weighty Calls of divine Providence, viz. that of the Presidency & that of the Chh. in Portsmouth—that God may be pleased to enlighten me & discover the Path of Duty.

Extracts of Letters respecting my Call &c. From Hon. William Ellery Esq. one of my Newport Flock Member of Congress & dated from thence.

“YORK TOWN, Pensylv<sup>a</sup>,  
Dec. 19, 1777.

— “If the Place & pple should be as agreeable as at N. Haven, & the Salary is not consid<sup>r</sup> less I think I should advise to your settling in Portsmouth:—an 100 Dollars, in my Mind, would weigh more than the Honor of Presidentship—. I wish there was a prospect of your Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock ever returning ; but alas ! they are scattered up and down the Land like Sheep without a Shepherd, and it is probable that many of them will never again return to Newport. If I could foresee that in the course of a few years there would be eno<sup>t</sup> of them collected to give you a comfort<sup>a</sup> support, I should not hesitate to desire you *not to accept the Presidency* of Yale College ; & *to refuse settling at Portsm<sup>o</sup>*, or anywhere else ; for I don't know any place where, if your family could be comfortably subsisted, you would be so happy as at Newp<sup>t</sup> ; & I am persuaded that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congreg<sup>a</sup> in Newp<sup>t</sup> will never find a Minister whom they will so universally love and respect as D<sup>r</sup> Stiles ; but this is so improbable that in considering the subject of your Election it ought not to weigh much. . . . I wrote you a Lett. some time since in w<sup>ch</sup> I said something humorously regard<sup>g</sup> your future Return to Newport, but tho' humorously s<sup>d</sup> it had as some times my funny Speeches have a very serious meaning. I think, may it please your Reverence, that if you could take a rich Wife at Portsm<sup>o</sup> & could make it in your Bargain that she should go with you to Newp<sup>t</sup>, when Peace & Indep<sup>th</sup> shall be established, it might settle this knotty bnsness. . . .

Lett. from Hon. Henry Marchant Esq. another of my Newport Flock, & Member of Congress, dated Dec. 19, 1777, at Providence.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Lankton or Langton (Yale 1747), a native of Farmington, Conn., pastor of the 2d Church in York, Me., from 1754 to 1794.

I reached my Farm in South-Kingstown the 4<sup>th</sup> Instant & found my Family in good Health. I have enjoyed mine remarkably considering the very sultry Season I have gone thro', & the close Application to Publick Business. . . .

I heard before I left Congress of the Honorable Call made by the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale College of y<sup>e</sup> to the Presidency. Partly in hopes of seeing y<sup>e</sup> at New Haven I came that way. I saw the Deputy Govenor (Griswold) & several of the Judges of the Superior Court at Fairfield, who informed me, it was an event most *universally approved of*, & that the Expectation of Harmonizing all Parties, and taking off that Coolness which has heretofore too much taken place between the Legislature & that Corporation, was now great & very pleasing: that they had they greatest hopes of your acceptance. The Gentlemen who represent that State in Congress I also found very well pleased. *All I conversed with in my journey expressed their entire Approbation.* Your Br Hubbard and the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey with whom I breakfasted at New Haven spoke with much Comfort and Satisfact. upon the subject. I alone there, but *not so here*, was left to regret an irreparable Loss! But what shall we say? &c. —I was in hopes of seeing a tolerable meet<sup>s</sup> of your Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> in this T<sup>e</sup> agreeable to your Desire last Tuesday, but their scattered situation, the Difficulty & Expense of Travell<sup>s</sup> prevented it. You have seen some, I imagine have had Letters from some others—& as *this matter cannot be conducted in the regular Order w<sup>e</sup>* under other circumstances might be tho't essentially necessary, I think it must be left to such advice as you have rec<sup>d</sup> from y<sup>r</sup> Friends & Flock, to y<sup>r</sup> own good sense, assisted as I pray y<sup>o</sup> may be by the Divine Spirit. . . .

Letter from Col. Belcher another of my Newport Flock.

BROOKLINE Dec. 25. 1777.

. . . I have not heard w<sup>t</sup> the Doings of the Meeting at Providence were. Were we at Newp<sup>t</sup> as usual I confess it would be hard work with me to consent to your leaving us. But Every Thing Considered I *don't know even then*, whether it would be Right for us to forbid it. But when I consider our dispersed & scattered Estate and the little Probability of our being regathered soon, I think Sir, I should be wanting in that Regard which have ever professed to have had for you, if I did not say that I think Providence has opened a Door whereby you may yet be eminently useful in the Promotion of Learning, Religion & Virtue . . . . —I am with great Esteem & Regard Sir y<sup>r</sup> affectionate Friend &c.  
JOSEPH BELCHER."

Lett fr. M<sup>r</sup> Sayer another of my Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock.

"TAUNTON Jany 10. 1778.

— "As to the affair of the Meeting at Providence, I have not heard any thing of—nor do I expect to: I dont think y<sup>t</sup> there was eno. there to make a Meeting—My Business was such that I could not attend. I am the same way of thinking now as when you saw me last, about your leaving us wholly. *I cannot, nor will ever consent for you to leave us.* I am willing that you should, while this unnatural War lasts, but no longer. My Wife says (& I am of the same way of thinking, as well as others of your Congregation) if we live to go home, and D<sup>r</sup> Stiles is not there, it will not be like Newport.

BENJAMIN SAYER."



Lett. from Mr. Rob<sup>t</sup> Stevens jun. another of my Flock.

“BOSTON 28<sup>th</sup> Jany 1778.

— “I have informed as many of our Congreg<sup>a</sup> as I have seen of your Intentions, & find them all agree to give you your Liberty as the Circumstances now is to leave your Choice to act as you shall think proper except Mr Sayer & Godfrey who are unwilling to give up the tho'ts of seeing you joyn your Congregation again at Newp<sup>ort</sup>. . . . .

Lett. from Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. West of Dartmouth.

DARTMOUTH Jany the 7<sup>th</sup> 1778.

I this day rec<sup>d</sup> your favor of the 2<sup>d</sup> Inst, as to your accepting the Presid<sup>y</sup> of Y. Coll. Honor & Interest being out of the Question, there are only to be considered your temporal Happiness & your Usefulness; as to the first, I am clearly of the Opinion that *you would enjoy Life much better in the condition of the Pastor of a Chh of Christ, than in that of the Presid<sup>y</sup> of a College*; provided that you were beloved by your people, & treated with that Respect that ought to be shown to every worthy Minister of the Gospel; and it is my present Opinion that you may return with Safety to Newp<sup>ort</sup> before the Expiration of the present year: but this by the bye. I consider no Life so happy as that of a Gospel Minister who lives in Harmony with his People; Nor am I satisfied that you would be more useful in the College than in the Chh of God. Your Usefulness in either Station I doubt not may be very great: but this is too difficult a point for me to determine; there are many Circumstances to be taken into Consider<sup>a</sup>, whether it is a difficult Thing to supply that Seminary with a suitable President? How your dispersed Chh & People stand affected to the Proposal? or if you give up Newp<sup>ort</sup>, How the Chh of Ports<sup>mo</sup>. stands affected towards you? etc. But above all, dear Sir, pray to the Father of Lights for Direction in this difficult affair, and in an humble Dependence on divine Assistance study to do that which will bring the greatest Glory to God, and good to the Souls of men, and you will undoubtedly be led into a right & just Determination of the matter. I am Rev<sup>d</sup> & Dear sir

Your affectionate Friend & Brother in X Jesus

SAMUEL WEST

Lett. from Rev. Charles Chauncy D.D.

— “As to the affair of your being chosen into the presidentship, I know of none in these parts but rejoyce at it. and are united in the Opinion that *you are loudly called in Providence to accept of that Post of serving your Maker & Generation. This, I assure you, is the unanimous Opinion of our Boston Association*, to whom I communicated your Letter. I wonder, after such Assurances from the best Judges in Connecticutt, & so many of them, that you did not write me, you were determined to spend the rest of your time & Labors as head of the New Haven College. And this is the Account I fully expect to hear from you the next Letter you shall see fit to send me. As to the *Society at Newp<sup>ort</sup>* to which you are related, tis *impossible you should have a Dismission from them*, or indeed any proper advice how you should treat this Call from them; and you may be sure, *if the state of your Chh at Newp<sup>ort</sup> was*

*now as before these times, they would have dismissed you, or have been obliged to do it by the advice of a Council, had it been necessary one should be called. Upon the whole I cant but think you would disobey a clear indisputable Call of Providence, if you did not leave Portsmouth, and Newport, and fix down at New-Haven as the place Heaven has designed for your Abode the rest of your days : and I pray God they may be of long Continuance : & of great Usefulness.*

I would add, considering the Disposition of pple. respecting what they are willing to allow those who are employed in their service, I think the Allowance made you is beyond my Expectation, tho' below your merit. Should there be bro't forward a cordial agreement between the Trustees of Yale College, and the Government of Connecticut, I doubt not you would be amply provided for.

CHARLES CHAUNCY."

Received 17 Janry 1778. . . . .

8. Ldsdy. I preached to the bereaved Flock at Great Island being one of the Bearers of the late Rev. Mr. Chase. A.M. Rom. iii, 24, 25. P.M. 1 Pet. v, 4. and baptized there Son of Trefethen & Temperance his Wife. Mr. Haven preached for me & propounded Humphrey Furnald for renewing his baptismal Covenant.

9. Articles of Confederation circulating thro' the Towns.

11. I baptized privately John, Son of John & Anna Read they first owning the Covenant privately the Child being dangerously sick—both desiring to be propounded publicly next Lordsday & the Wife consenting to make a public Confession . . . . . This Even<sup>g</sup> I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from President Langdon in Answer to mine of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult; he wishes me to settle here but excuses himself from positive Advice, considering his former Relation & present Affection to this Flock.

12. I rec<sup>d</sup> sundry Letters—one from D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy, another from Mr. Ben. Ellery,<sup>1</sup> another from Rev. Mr. Goodrich in the Name of the Corporation of Yale College. D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy informs he shall communicate my Letter to the B<sup>o</sup> Assoc. next Monday. Mr. Goodrich's Letter is dated Durham Janry. 20<sup>th</sup>, 1778, giving me an acco. of the Interview between the Corpor<sup>a</sup> & a Committee of Assembly at Hartfd. on the 13<sup>th</sup> Jan'y. All the Fellows present except one, viz. Mr. Mather. The Assembly's Committee, Mr. Davenport, Sam<sup>l</sup> Huntington Esq of the Council, & from the House of Represent<sup>a</sup> Mr Speaker Hosmer of the C<sup>o</sup> of Hartford, Sam<sup>l</sup> Bishop Esq from the C<sup>o</sup> of N Haven, Major Abel<sup>2</sup> C<sup>o</sup> Fair-

<sup>1</sup> The eldest son of Deputy Governor William Ellery, born 1725, died 1807.

<sup>2</sup> Elijah Abel (Yale 1760), of Fairfield.

field, Mr. Wales<sup>1</sup> C<sup>o</sup> Windham, Major Phelps<sup>2</sup> C<sup>o</sup> N London, Mr. Adams<sup>3</sup> C<sup>o</sup> Litchfield.

On the 14<sup>th</sup> the Conference opened, & my Plan of a University drawn up at the Desire of the Fellows was laid before them. The next day the Committee by Mr Huntington *verbally* delivered their Opin. of the Exped<sup>y</sup> of a large Addition to the Lib<sup>y</sup>, & Apparatus, Endowm<sup>t</sup> of 2 or more Professorships, and new Edifices. In order to this they proposed a Union of the College with the State, by adding or conjoyning with the Corpor<sup>a</sup> a Board of Civilians elected by the Assembly and the Election of Presid<sup>t</sup>, Professors & Tutors (except the Professor of Divinity) to stand on the separte Votes of the two united Boards of the Divines & Civilians. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> consid<sup>d</sup> this *verbal* Proposal, drew up & delivered to the Commitee 8 Heads of Conference, in which they concede that the Assembly by such Board as they shall appoint shall have the Approb<sup>a</sup> of the Presid<sup>t</sup> & Professors (except<sup>d</sup> Prof. Div<sup>y</sup>) but not the Tutors. That the Corpor<sup>a</sup> have the Disposal of their own or present Revenues: the Board of Civilians to have the Disposal of their own Grants for the Professorships they may endow—without accounting to or being controlled by each other.

Even these Concessions did not satisfy. The next day the Committee in their Turn delivered in Writing 11 Heads of Conference proposed by them—in which besides those above they are more explicit on the United Board & its Powers, that the old and new funds be consolidated & under the Direction of the united Board—all the pub. Officers (except Div<sup>y</sup> Prof.) be elected & removed by, & Appeals upon Suspensions & Expulsions lie to the united Board. Another meeting appointed at Hartford the 10<sup>th</sup> of Febry: & so must be now sitting.

The Corpor<sup>a</sup> passed this Vote. “The Rev. Warham Williams is empowered to do every Thing necessary on the part of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> to remove D<sup>r</sup> Stiles & his Family from Portsmouth to N. H. if he shall accept the Presidents Office, & likewise giving him the Possession of the Presid<sup>t</sup>s House when he arrives.”—And Mr. Goodrich writes, “in case of your Inauguration we have desired Sam<sup>l</sup> Whittelsey Dana A.B. to grace the Ceremony with an Oration suitable to the Occasion.”

<sup>1</sup> Nathaniel Wales, Jr., of Windham.

<sup>2</sup> Charles Phelps, of Stonington.

<sup>3</sup> Andrew Adams (Yale 1760), of Litchfield.



Lett. Mr. Benj<sup>a</sup> Ellery, one of my Newport Flock.

"NO. PROVIDENCE Jan<sup>y</sup> 30, 1778.

"I write with Freedom. Your little Flock, deprived of part of their Property, & scattered about the Country, will not probably all of them ever collect together again; & should the major Part return to Newp<sup>t</sup> their Circumst<sup>s</sup> will be so reduced that, however willing they may be, it will not be in their Power to afford you such a Living as you deserve. I think therefore it will be best for you to accept the Invitation to the Presidency of Yale College, if the Salary will give you a comfortable Living. I am honoured by your Friendship. I know your Abilities & Learning. 'Tis time you was exalted to a Place in which you may move with Lustre & Applause. I flatter myself I shall have the pleasure of seeing you in that Career excell with Eclat all your Predecessors. My best Wishes, kindest Regards & Esteem attend you & yours wherever you go. And if I could conceive the prayers of such a Worm of the Dust as I am to the Deity would be of any Service to you, I would add them for your Health Happiness & Prosperity. . . . ."

14. In the Univ. Mag. Sept. 1763, "Of 14,000 Land forces which reduced the Havanna, there only remained when given back, about 3500; the proportion by natural Death was about *six to one* of those killed on the besieging that place." Rem. 1. The 14 Th. perhaps not above 8 or 10,000. 2. The 3500 may be those returned to England, not including the American Troops. 3. Probably the British might be 6 or 7 Thousd & but half returned. 4. But if 10 Th. killed & died, the above ratio may give 1500 killed only.

15. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Ps. cxli, 8. P.M. Numb. x, 29, and baptized Sally D. of Nehemiah Rowel & his Wife. I propounded Deborah Wife of Cap<sup>t</sup> Henry Carter & Margaret Wife of Clement March for Admission to full Communion. Also Jn<sup>o</sup> Read & Anna his Wife and Violet a Mullatto, Widow of Boston, deceased, for owning the Covenant.

16. Gen. S<sup>t</sup> Clair in Town last Week.

17. G. S<sup>t</sup> Clair says G. Wash. & Army are comfortable in good winter Quarters; that Independence can be easily supported: that a Continental Packet from France lately arrived with Dispatches for Congress, & when D<sup>r</sup> Franklins Packet was opened it contained nothing but blank papers—it is supposed the English Ambassador at Paris corrupted the Carrier & took out D<sup>r</sup> Franklin's Letters & sent Blanks under the Cover to Congress. The Tories whisper that Burgoyne has a Lett. from Newport advising that Engld has declared War against France, & offers to acknowledge the Indep<sup>y</sup> of the United States provided we restrict our Trade to Britain. Not

a Word of Truth ; only ventilated abroad to try the Sense & Dispositions of the pple ; for they know they must come to such an Offer at last, & even this will not be sufficient—Trade must be free.

18. The Committee waited upon me for my Answer.

19. The Parish Meeting adjourned a month.

20. I received a Letter from Dr Chauncy with the opinion of the Boston Ministers advising my Acceptance of the Presid<sup>y</sup>. It is said Gen. Lee is released. Gen. Spencer has resigned.

22. Ldsdy. A.M. & all day I preached upon Matt. xi, 28-30. I baptized John son of Humphry Furnald & Sarah his wife, said Humphry first renewing his baptismal Covenant. Also I propounded William Ham for Admission. . .

To the Brethren of the Chh & to the Gentlemen of the Congregation of the first Parish in Portsmouth.

DEARLY BELOVED

It has pleased a holy God that in my exiled State, I should be addressed with two Calls to public Service both equally clear & both very important. While I had under Consideration an Invitation to the Presid<sup>y</sup> of Yale College, your Committee presented me with the Vote of your very respectable Congreg<sup>a</sup> of 27<sup>th</sup> ult inviting me to settle in the Ministry here. I esteem myself greatly honored by the acceptance of my very imperfect Labors, and by the Unanimity with which the Congreg<sup>a</sup> invite my Continuance among them. I am utterly unworthy of these repeated Applications, and I pray God I may be directed to discern the path of duty in this important Exigency. For some time past I had rather thought it my duty to accept the Presidency ; having, in addition to the Election received of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Corpor<sup>a</sup>, all that Approb<sup>a</sup> & Concurrence of the public voice, & pressing Importunity, both from Ministers & Civilians, from the Friends of the Chhs., fr. the friends of the Cause of the blessed Jesus, as well as from the friends of Literature, which can possibly take place in the clearest Call. After consulting the minds of the Dispersion of my Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock, *Mental Inabilities & infirm Health* of Body are all I can reasonably object ; and these the public have considered & dispensed with, wishing me to be referred herein to the Grace of God & the strength of Jesus to be perfected in my Weakness. I know not why Heaven should dispose or permit such an Unanimity in Connecticut & elsewhere unless hereby to indicate a Call & Designation of div. Providence. I desire to be at the Disposal of Heaven whether as to the Presidency, or as to the Work of the Ministry, if the div. Jesus hath any further service for me in the pastoral Office. The Labors of the Sanctuary, to minister to the Saints in holy Things & to persuade Sinners to be reconciled to God, have been my great Delight for years past and still are my chief Joy. I should take great Satisfact. in spending the short Remnant of my days in the service of Jesus & in the evangelical Ministry. And next to my Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock I know of none that I should be more happy among than the first Congregational Chh in Portsmouth, to which I wish Grace Mercy & Peace with all the evangelical

Blessings. I have taken your Call into serious Consider<sup>a</sup>, I have asked Counsel of Heaven & am looking to the Father of Lights for direction. I have to consider my dear Newp<sup>t</sup> flock; & so many other Things are to be thought of & thoro'ly digested, as that I cannot at present make up a decisive Judgment. I purposed to have given my Answer to the College this month, but I have concluded to suspend it still longer, as well to wait the Result of some Negotiation between the Legislature of Connect. & the College, as to have more time to deliberate upon your Call. I purpose in a few Weeks to deliver in my final Answer to the Committee. I am, Gentlemen,

Your affectionate Friend & most obed<sup>t</sup> Servant

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Feb. 17, 1778.

EZRA STILES.

BOSTON Feby. 17<sup>th</sup> 1778.

REV<sup>d</sup> AND DEAR SIR.

My Letter to you, accompanied by one (I suppose) from the Yale College corporation, directed to my care by the scribe, I trust you have received: as it was sent by young Mr Austin, who promised me he would deliver it with his own hands. I conclude you have by this time determined to take up with the Presidency to that College, who have called you to this trust, which is an important one, and will give you an extensive opportunity of being useful. If you need any further advice upon this head, you have it from *the Boston Association, who met yesterday at my house*, when I read your letter to them, and *have authority from them to let you know, that they are still united in the Opinion & advice they sent you some time ago*. I shall soon expect to see you in Town on your Journey to Yale-College, over which I pray God you may long continue to preside to your own honor, and the public good. I suppose you have heard that the Chh & congregation to which I am related have given Mr Clark a unanimous Call to settle in the ministry among them as my assistant.

I am, with due respect

Your friend & humble serv<sup>t</sup>

CHARLES CHAUNCY."

PORTSMOUTH Feb. 23, 1778.

REV. & DEAR SIR.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> I rec'd the Rev. Mr Goodrich's Letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> ult. with your Additions purporting that it had passed your Review. From the suggestion intimated in that Letter, & from the represent<sup>a</sup> there given of the state of the Negotiation respecting the Alteration of the Constitution of Yale College, it appears to me most prudent to suspend for the present my Answer to the Corporation. It has pleased God that I am addressed with 2 Calls at one & the same time, both equally clear, and both very important. In my Letter of the 29<sup>th</sup> ult. I advised you of an Invitation I had received from the first Cong. Chh in this Town. With a very pressing Importunity they are desirous of my settling with them in the pastoral Office, conceding a Reserv<sup>a</sup> of returning to my dear Newport Flock if I please, or otherwise to continue with them for Life. Last Week they adjourned the parish Meet<sup>s</sup> for a month to receive my final Answer. The Kindness of a gracious Providence to me, in my exiled state, is such, that of all men I ought to be at the Disposal of Jesus, devoted to the Service &



Will of God, & referred to the Determination of Heaven. I have consulted many judicious persons both Ministers & Civilians, Friends of Literature & the Chhs; most of whom are of Opinion that I should be happier in the Ministry than in the Presidency: and yet they almost unanimously concur in advising me to devote myself to the weighty Cares of the latter, as the undoubted and distinguished Call of divine Providence—this however they do on principles which the Modesty I ought to possess, cannot realize. Perhaps the Course of the Negotiation between the Assembly & Corporation, the Fluctuation of the Currency, or the Expect<sup>a</sup> of this years Campaign, may open the path of duty more clearly both to the Reverend Corporation & to myself. I shall therefore defer giving a final Answer till you shall be pleased to notify me when it may be proper. In the meantime I would ask an Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Interview of the 10<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup>, which may perhaps terminate this Negotiation, leaving Things as before it began.

I think the Revenues of Yale College may soon be estimated at £900 L. M. annually—at present they are £800. If the support of the present Officers of Instruction may amount to £530, there should seem to remain enough to support the two Professorships of *Law & Physic*: in which Case there would be no Deficiency to be drafted upon the State by the proposed additional Board of Civilians. If so it should seem that half the Power & Jurisdiction of the Corporation is transferred & bartered from the Ministers to the Civilians, for nothing more than an Addition to the College Edifices, Library & Apparatus. And perhaps the Western Counties might concur in doing this. The Assembly hold their Favor at a very high price; If their Negotiations should break off & they build another College at Windham or the Eastern part of the State; they will however probably after that consider Yale College as one of the Lights of the State, grant a Lottery for a College Edifice, & perhaps do more for its Emolument in Gratification of the Western Part of the State, than they ever would do on the proposed plan of Union. Besides as the College was unquestionably founded by the Pastors of the Chhs, it would seem expedient to assemble a Convocation of the whole Clergy of Connecticut, & ask their Consent for so great & important a surrendery of Power. Thus the way of the Corporation might be clear.<sup>1</sup>

I shall hope to receive a Letter from you the first post after your receipt of this. I am, Dear Sir

|                                                           |                                    |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Your affectionate Brother in the Evang. Ministry & in the |                                    |
| REV, ELIPH <sup>a</sup> WILLIAMS                          | K <sup>m</sup> & Patience of Jesus |
| East Hartford                                             | EZRA STILES.                       |

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> Feb. 23, 1778.

REV. SIR

Your Letter of the 20<sup>th</sup> ult. I rec<sup>d</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> Inst. It gave me a very particular acc<sup>o</sup> of the Negotia. between the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Y. C. & the Committee of the G. Assembly. I shall daily expect an acc<sup>o</sup> of the Interview of the 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>. From the suggestion in your Lett. it is undoubtedly prudent that I should suspend my Auswer to the Corpor<sup>a</sup> for the present. I have written to this effect to the

<sup>1</sup> This paragraph is marked as cancelled in the letter as sent.

Rev. Mr. Williams of E. Hartford, whom I have advised of the unanimous Call I have to settle in the Min<sup>y</sup> here for Life, which I now have under Consider<sup>a</sup> with your Call to the Presid<sup>y</sup>. May God lead me in the Path of Duty. Before I rec<sup>d</sup> this Call & until I rec<sup>d</sup> your Letter I had determined to have sent you my final Answer sometime about the middle of this Month—but this I now defer till I have your further Requests.

I have not heard whether the Senior Class reside at N. H. as ordered by the Corporation. Of this you will be pleased to advise me, as also whether all the Classes are to be called together at N. Haven after the Spring Vacation? It is so very uncertain whether you will receive this, that I add no more, &c.

Y<sup>r</sup> affectionate Br in the Gospel

EZRA STILES.

REV. ELIZUR GOODRICH

Scribe of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Y. Coll.

26. I spent as a day for private Fasting & Prayer to seek the divine Direction. I endeavored to carry my whole Situation to the Throne of Grace, both as to my family at large and the Calls of Provid. to me particularly. I asked Council of unerring Wisdom—desiring every Obstruction or at least efficacious and sufficient Obstructions should be laid in my way to prevent my taking any Course contrary to the divine Will; & that a concurrence of personal and public motives might indicate my duty; and that I might discern the true reason wherefore divine Providence has permitted the present good Offers, & which he would have me to take.

Whether 1. God gave me the Call at Portsm<sup>o</sup> to give me a better Reception in Connect. shewing that it was not a matter of necessity or Want that shd. induce me to the Presidency, since I should be well provided for here; and perhaps to make the College & Assembly more engaged at a time when their Negotiations might be discouraging, as it seems as if little good would come of them, or at best that one that should enter on the Presidency while the new Constitution is forming would have to expect several uncomfortable years—too discouraging for one otherwise comfortably situated. Or 2. Whether to try my own heart, & for the proof of the real spirit within me; I might perhaps have tho't and said, I should not have accepted the Presidency had an effectual door opened for the Ministry. I am now cut off of this self-deception. God is giving me an effectual & singular door—not only to settle for Life in a large and agreeable Congreg<sup>a</sup> of 250 Families; but with a reservation of Lib<sup>y</sup> to return to Newport, & so in effect a double door singularly & of the overflowing goodness of God opened. And 3. Whether it be the real Will of Heaven that I should abide in the

Ministry—and so the Election of the Presid<sup>y</sup> designed by Providence to stimulate the Choice & Call here. Several Circumstances concur to indicate that I should relinquish Newport. With regard to Portsm<sup>o</sup> or College the Calls are equally clear & both very good, every way above my Deserts, neither of them bro't about by Collusion & Intrigue, my particular Friends having no hand in either. I have taken pains to know the Motives of both Choices and am flattered that Merit alone hath gained them both. Not a single objection at Portsm<sup>o</sup>, and by the last Acc<sup>o</sup> from Connecticut not a single one there—and altho' I must believe there are some in both places, yet they are so few as to be of little Weight. I am urged from the Topic of Usefulness in both places. At Portsmouth it is urged that the Congreg<sup>a</sup> was so broken after Dr. Langdon left them that many left it, the Candidates pleased some & disgusted others, they had employed several young & old Ministers but none gave Satisfaction, the more polite part were ambitious of having a learned sensible man, the middling & lower people were for an Evangelical preacher whether learned or not—they had not found these united in one man; the evangelical preacher they found in me & were so united that the higher & more fashionable part acquiesced, tho' themselves could have wished one to have preached more in the Air of S<sup>t</sup> James or Paris and yet I am told it is their hearty desire for themselves as well as the flock. They all say that they shall never be so united again, & plead with Earnestness the prospect of my Usefulness here. I desire to refer the whole to Heaven.

This Eveng. was our Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lect. at D<sup>r</sup> Havens Meeting who preached it. Being ill of a Cold I am unable to attend. Isaac my Son began to learn the Greek Grammar.

27. It is said Gen. Wash. has 10,000 with him in Winter Qu<sup>rs</sup>, all healthy & well; & that Gen. Howe has 15,000 in Philad<sup>a</sup>. The Post came in this Even'g. . . . .

By the Post I rec<sup>d</sup> a Packet from the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale College dated 12 Feb. Ins<sup>t</sup> at Hartford, where a Meet<sup>g</sup> of the Assemblys Committee & Corpor<sup>a</sup> was appointed. All but one of the Assemblys Committee were prevented meeting, & so nothing was conferred or transacted between them. Six of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> being met considered the plan proposed by the Committee & drafted a Rescript in which they signify their opinion that that plan would be, not an Addition & Enlargm<sup>t</sup>, but Abolition of the original Constitution of the College which they hold sacred; that they concede



that for Professorships endowed by the Assembly the Election of such Professors should stand upon the mutual Concurrence & Votes of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> & the proposed Board of Civilians by their respective Majorities. And wish this to give satisfaction.

The Scribe writes me further : " I wrote you by direction of the Corporation that a suspension of your Answer for a little while might be dispensed with, from the peculiar situation of our affairs, but upon the most mature Deliberation of the Members present, it is *their unanimous Opinion*, that it is not prudent to delay it any longer, and therefore I am ordered to signify their united and earnest Desire, that you would as soon as may be, give an Answer to our Call, directed to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williams . . . . We can assure you, that as far as we are acquainted, your Appointment is agreeable to the Ministry, the General Assembly and the State, and we flatter ourselves your Presence and Investiture with the Presidents office will be of great and singular Advantage to College. We hope your Answer will be favorable to our wishes and those of the public . . . . On our part I am authorized to assure you, that it will be the Endeavor of all the Members of the Corporation to support you in the Office, to which they have invited you, and as far as possible to bear every Burden with you, and to render your Situation easy and comfortable.

ELIZUR GOODRICH.

. . I have now the Unanimous Voice of the whole Corporation.

March.

1. Ldsdy. I preached all day upon Mat. xi, 28-30, and administered the Lds Supper to perhaps 70 Communicants.

Before the Communion Anna the Wife of John Reed & Violet a free Molatto made a Confession. . . . And Deborah the Wife of Henry Carter & Margaret the Wife of Clement March were received into full Communion & partook with us. In the Aft. Jno. Reed & Anna his Wife & Violet owned the Covenant, & I baptized Violet & her Infant Pharaoh.

4. Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> ult. the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Wight was ord<sup>d</sup> Pastor of the southermost Chh. in Boston late Dr. Byles's.

5. . . . This afternoon I baptized privately William, Abigail & Sarah, Children of Jn<sup>o</sup> Reed & Anna his Wife.

6. Observed here Sun's Merid. Alt. 41°, 30', Variation 10 or 11° W.

This Even'g. was visited by Judge Weare & Judge Thornton, D<sup>r</sup> Haven & Major Hale. Judge Weare is at the head of this State by the Title of President, & at the same time Chief Judge of the Sup. Court now sitting here. D<sup>r</sup> Thornton was a Delegate in Congress at the Declaration of Indep<sup>y</sup>. The Assembly of this State have called a Convention of Representatives of all the Towns to meet next June to construct a new Policy or form of Government. M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Adams now at Boston having made some speeches in Congress respecting the danger of making any man too great or investing him with too much power lest he should like Cæsar endanger the public Liberties, & that he would not trust even Gen. Wash. too far : and a Faction in the Army thinking G. Wash. not eno<sup>'</sup> of a Fighter & endeavoring to blow up a breeze & get Gen. Wash. superseded by G. Gates—The tories have for several days propagated that M<sup>r</sup> Adams had made a Motion in Mass. Assembly to have them & other States apply to Congress to supersede Washington. But M<sup>r</sup> Adams means no such Thing. Neither would he or Congress or the Army or the Continent be easy to have Gates at the head of the Army.

7. Snow Storm—fell four or 5 Inch. deep.

8. Ldsdy. . . . I preached at D<sup>r</sup> Havens A.M. on Tit. ii, 11-14. P.M. at my own Meeting Ps. xxv, 4, 5, and baptized James Son of Samuel Sherburne—Nathaniel Son of Nath<sup>l</sup> Pitman and Mary his Wife—and Eunice Daughter of James Hill and Eunice his Wife, and also I propounded Benj<sup>a</sup> Crocket. Reading a quarto Volume entituled the Gospel Cov<sup>t</sup> or Cov<sup>t</sup> of Grace opened by the Rev. Peter Bulkeley Pastor the Chh in Concord in N. England & formerly Fellow of St. John's Coll. in Cambridge : it was printed in a 2<sup>d</sup> Edit. in London 1651, dedicated to the R<sup>t</sup> Hon. Oliver S<sup>t</sup> John, Ambassador from the Commonwealth to Holland, dated Apr. 15, 1651, & also to the Chh & Congreg<sup>a</sup> at Concord in N. England : with a preface by Rev. Tho. Shepard. Mr. *Bulkely* was a masterly Reasoner in Theology. I consider him & Presid<sup>t</sup> *Chauncy*, M<sup>r</sup> *Hooker*, M<sup>r</sup> *Norton*, and M<sup>r</sup> *Davenport* as the greatest Divines among the first Ministers of N. Engld, & equal to the first Characters in Theology in all Christendom & in all ages.

9. This day Ezra returned to the College at Cambridge. In the London Mag. of Sept<sup>r</sup> last is a Copy of a Manifesto by Gen. Washington dated Continental Camp at Middlebrook July 19, 1777, in Answer to Gen. Burgoynes Proclamation. But Gen. Wash. never

issued such a Manifesto. So there was lately published in the Halifax paper a Letter from G. Wash. to his Lady dated about 24<sup>th</sup> June or about ten days before the Declar<sup>n</sup> of Indep<sup>y</sup>, in which the Author made the General to *disclaim Indep<sup>y</sup>* & say he *loved his King*. But all was forgery or fictitious.

11. This day Ezra is nineteen years old. On Monday he measured five feet nine inches.

13. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Kettelstas<sup>1</sup> visited me.

14. Rev. D. Macclure rogavit ut filiam sibi connubio darem.<sup>2</sup>

15. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at D<sup>r</sup> Havens Meeting and Rev. Mr. Keteltas preached for me—he was habited in a Clergyman's black Gown. P.M. in my own Pulpit, Heb. iv, 14-16. I admitted W<sup>m</sup> Ham into full Communion with this Church. . . . .

17. . . . . I attended an Eveng. Lect. at D<sup>r</sup> Havens & heard M<sup>r</sup> Keteltas preach from Mat. vi, 33, an excellent sermon. I married Daniel Moulton of Rye & Mary Moses of Portsm<sup>o</sup>.

A day of Prayer, of constant Thoughtfulness & Looking up to the Father of Lights for the divine Guidance & Direction in determining on the important Competition between Portsmouth & Yale College. . . . . The three days past I have devoted to prayer & supplication as much as the unavoidable Avocations would permit. I have been in great Anxiety.

18. This Afternoon the Committee waited upon me, and I gave them my answer that I thought it my duty to accept the Presidency, and prayed God to send them a Pastor after his own heart.

19. Mr. Keteltas went away. This Afternoon there was a parish Meeting to receive my Answer.

“To the first Parish in Portsmouth

GENTLEMEN

I have attentively considered your Call to settle in the ministry with you, together with the Call to the Presidency of Yale College. It is exceedingly difficult to determine the path of duty. As to Interest there is no Preference, the prospect is equal and in either case amounts to only a decent subsistence. The prospect of Usefulness is great and agreeable in both. In either of them

<sup>1</sup> Abraham Keteltas (Yale 1752), of Jamaica, L. I. Being driven from his home during the war, he was now supplying the first Presbyterian Church in Newburyport, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> This suit of Mr. McClure (Yale 1769), the minister of North Hampton, N. H., must have been for the hand of Dr. Stiles's eldest daughter, Elizabeth (or Betsey), born in 1758, who died unmarried in 1795. Mr. McClure did not marry until Dec., 1780.



there is a Field opened for the exertion of Talents far superior to mine. You honor me with the continued Unanimity & Importunity of your Call. I am also honoured with the like Circumstances in the Call to New Haven. I have prayed to be under the Influence & Direction of the great Head of the Chh., & have sought Wisdom at the fountain of Light. I have asked the Counsel of two Associations, both disconnected from the College and this Congregation, & particularly that of the Boston Ministers, both of which advise me for New Haven : giving their Opinion that this would be my duty, was I situated with my dear Newport Flock in the same peaceable & happy State as in years past. Some Gentlemen for whom I have great Esteem have advised me to accept your Call, but the public Voice is very generally otherwise, tho' I confess on principles, which the Modesty I ought to possess will not suffer me to realize. On a full View of the whole matter & comparison of all Circumstances I have rather tho't it the Will of God that I should spend the momentary Remnant of my days in promoting *Learning* in conjunction with *Religion*, & in forming the rising Hopes of our Country for Usefulness in Chh. & State. And therefore, tho' with Diffidence & uncertainty whether I shall make a right choice, yet with humble reference of myself to the Disposal & Blessing of Heaven, I have concluded to accept the Presidency. I return you my Thanks for all the Testimonies of your friendship and affection, & sincerely commend you to the blessing of Jesus. I pray God to send you a pastor of evangelical principles, of benevolent and amiable manners, & of a truly apostolic spirit ; in whom you may be long happy, happier much than in me. I shall ever retain a sincere affection for this flock, & rejoice in the prosperity of this part of the Xtian Zion. I am,

My beloved Brethren & Friends

Your affectionate and

Most obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

PORTSM<sup>o</sup> March 18. 1778.

EZRA STILES.

. . . . . The Gen. Assemblys of Mass. Connect. N. Hamp. & Rh. Isld. have approved the Articles of Confederation. As the two principal States Virg. & Mass. have come into it, it is to be hoped it will meet with a general Reception. The Congress being annual & its Members revocable at pleasure, is the grand Security of public Liberty. While the Sovereignty resides in an annual Body it should seem impossible for it hereafter to swallow up our Liberties.

20. The people here are tenderly affected with my declining their Call, with a kind & pressing Importunity urge & wish me to consider the matter, pleading their Unanimity & the present success of my poor Labors in the additions to the Chh already & prospect of still further & more numerous additions as there are many under serious Impressions, and they say the aspect of the flock is changed for the better. I have therefore set apart this for a day of private fasting & prayer, to seek of God Light & Direction. . . . .

21. My Daughter Betsy preparing to go to Boston for Inoculation. M<sup>r</sup> Cutts from the Assembly tells me that M<sup>r</sup> Woodward one of the Tutors of Dartmouth Coll. says that D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock had in his Will appointed me his Successor, in the Presidency there. [Mistake.] Upon the Death of President Clap, President Holyoke once told me in Convers<sup>a</sup> that I should be Pres<sup>t</sup> of Yale College. D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy said on the Death of Pres<sup>t</sup> Holyoke that I should have succeeded him had I been educated at Harvard. May I humbly infer that the public discern some qualifications in me, which I have never seen in myself? But alas, the few Qualifications I may be supposed to have are overbalanced by numerous Disqualifications.

22. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Jn<sup>o</sup> ix, 39-41. P.M. Ps. xlvii, 4. Benjamin Crocket owned the Cov<sup>t</sup>, made profession of the Faith, and then I baptized him and Anna his Daughter, & also Priscilla Daughter of William Martin & his Wife. I then propounded Aells Hoit Widow, Katharine Wife of General Whipple, Hannah Wife of D<sup>r</sup> Bracket, & Elizabeth Wife of Col. Langdon, all for admission into full Communion. . . . .

23. Writing & copying Letters.

24. D<sup>o</sup> D<sup>o</sup>. Dispatched Letters to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Eliph. Williams another to Col. Fitch, Steward of Yale College, another to W<sup>m</sup> Channing Esq. at Dighton, with account of my accepting the Presidency of Yale College & relinquishing the Min<sup>y</sup> at Newport.

25. Copying a Letter to my Chh at Newport.

26. . . . . This day a number of persons 70 or more were inoculated at the Hospital near this Town. D<sup>r</sup> Haven inoculated about IV<sup>h</sup> P. M.

27. Isaac began the Greek Testament. Betsy was inoculated at Boston last Tuesday noon, viz. 24<sup>th</sup> Instant. I received a Letter from his Excellency Gov. Trumbull of Connecticut dated 15<sup>th</sup> Inst<sup>t</sup> in which he says—"I cannot omit repeating to you, how much Pleasure it would afford me to see you at the Head of Yale College: not so much perhaps from the Ideas I can entertain of the immediate & present Satisfaction you will probably experience in that Situation, as from the prospect of your Ability to render essential Benefit to the Republic of Learning, the Reflection on which will never fail to afford you internal peace & satisfaction of mind in Life, & give you a happy Prospect of future Reward."

I also rec<sup>d</sup> by this Post a Letter from Rev. Eliph. W<sup>ms</sup>, Senior Fellow of Yale College, pressing my Acceptance of the Presidency.

29. Ldsdy. I preached all day on Gal. ii, 20, propounded Sarah Treadwel. Notified Sacrament, and Lecture Thursday Eveng.

30. Snow storm.

April.

2. Sacramental Lecture : I preached on Ephes. ii. 22.

3. Letter from Ezra of 1<sup>st</sup> Instant informing that Deacon Penhallow & Wife & my Betsy were inoculated on Tuesday, 24<sup>th</sup> ult. & were now in a good way.

4. Dr. Haven inoculated 26th ult. Eveng. ; first broke out today XI A.M.

5. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Rev. xxii, 17, admitted Hannah the Wife of D<sup>r</sup> Bracket & Sarah Wife Nath<sup>l</sup> Treadwel into full Communion. And administered the Lords Supper to perhaps 60 Communicants. P.M. 1 Thess. iii, 8. and baptized Edward Son of Margery Snell & her Husband, and James Son of John Read & Anna his wife. In the Even<sup>g</sup> I married two Couples in the same house, Taylor Clark of Stratham & Sarah Miller, Edward Brown Moulton of Hampton & Lydia Miller—both the Sisters of Portsmouth.

10. . . . . Gen. Sullivan was here in Portsm<sup>o</sup> this Week & is appointed to the Commd at Rh. Isld—he says G. Wash. Army may be 12 or 15,000 and G Howes 11,000 or thereabouts ; and that the state of our Army much better than ever.

12. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at D<sup>r</sup> Havens 1 Pet. i, 13. his son preach<sup>d</sup> for me. P.M. Ps. lxxviii, 5-7. I baptized Anne Daughter of Michael Whidden & his Wife, Richard Langdon Son of ——— and his Wife, and Love Daughter of Gershom Flagg & his Wife. I read the Proclam<sup>a</sup> of this State for a public Fast thursday 16<sup>th</sup> Instant. Hot Day, Therm. 74.

15. I joyned in Marriage Benjamin Akerman Jun. with Eliz<sup>a</sup> Dennet, both of Portsmouth.

16. A Day of public Fasting & prayer thro' New Hampshire. I preached A.M. Amos iii, 2. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Stevens preached P.M. Isai. ii. I baptized Elizabeth Daughter of Elisha Hill & his Wife, & George Washington Son of Mr McIntyre & Wife. Contribution for the poor 60 Dollars.

17. A French Frigate arrived lately at Casco Bay in a short Passage from France with News that the Courts of Paris & Madrid had acknowledged our Independency. This Afternoon I



baptized privately Benjamin Beal Son of Jn<sup>o</sup> Pitman & Lucy his Wife. I am preparing for Inoculation with 3 of my Children. I heard from Betsy who was comfortable last Wednesday in Boston. This Even<sup>g</sup> I received a Letter from Mr Williams of E. Hartford dated the 11<sup>th</sup> Inst in which he says “your thrice Welcome Letter signifying your Acceptance of the Presidency arrived the 8<sup>th</sup> Inst., whereon I immediately repaired with the joyful news to Durham & communicated the Intelligence to Mr. Goodrich, who also appeared greatly pleased thereat; have agreed to call a Meeting of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> at N. Haven the 5<sup>th</sup> of May to lay your Answer before the Board, & consult about fixing the Classes &c. I apprehend you may assuredly depend on it as the earnest Desire & Expect<sup>a</sup> of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> that you would afford us your presence as soon as you can with convenience: &c.”

18. I wrote a Letter to the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich. And then with 3 Children went into the Hospital, and we were inoculated for the small pox.

“To the Reverend the Corporation of  
Yale College in New Haven.

GENTLEMEN,

I have attentively considered the Call with which you have honored me; together with that of the Congregation in Portsmouth, to which I am now ministering in holy Things. They have importuned me with a *Cordiality*, joyned to an original and continued *Unanimity*, which has made me greatly to doubt whether it was the Will of the great Head of the Chh., that I should resign the Ministry and retire from the Vineyard in the midst of a Vintage. This Call seemed to be doubled by the Reservation of Liberty to return to my dear Newport Flock; by which means two doors of Usefulness were kept open for my imperfect Labours in the pastoral Office. The service of the Redeemer in the Work of the Evangelical Ministry has for many years been my great delight, & in it I could chearfully spend the momentary Remnant of my Life. I have also a clear Call to the weighty and arduous Work of the Presidency: which so far as it consists in communicating Knowledge & Cultivating juvenile Minds in Science & Literature Wisdom & Virtue, would be very pleasant and delightful. But the Difficulties attending such a weighty Employment, particularly difficulties in the Government of College subject to frequent and unavoidable Convulsions, with the Impracticability of giving satisfaction to the public, are discouraging; and have sometimes determined me, especially considering my feeble habit, that it would be most prudent for me, & best for you that I should excuse myself from this service.

In the view of omniscient wisdom there is a certain sphere of activity adapted to every intelligent being; in which it would be wisest & best, that is, most for the Glory of God that he should be employed. If I know my own Heart, which I have long ago given away to JESUS, it is that I may be found in

this sphere, influenced by divine Grace to serve him faithfully, to coincide with the Will of Gd. & harmonize with the pfect order of the Universe, to take that station in which I may be most to the Glory of God our highest & last End. It was this Supreme motive that took me from the *Law* and carried me into the *Ministry*; I pray God this may operate in me thro' Life, thro' time & Eternity. I have had an ample Taste of the World and public Life, and for several years have had increasing Inclination for an unnoticed *Retirement*, as far as would be consistent with still testifying the Grace of the Gospel, not for my own reputation, but for the Salvation of Sinners. For the rest I should wish to live out of the World, that I might live more to God. And yet God is calling me to more extended Labours. The large and polite Congregation at Portsmouth of 250 Families, have without my seeking opened an enlarged Field for pub. Usefulness: and as this was not more than enough in Providence, you are also inviting me to a still more conspicuous Station, tho' to an Employment near akin to the Sacerdotal office, as the primary & great Design of Yale College was the Education of Ministers for the Churches. The Prospect of Usefulness is great in both, calling for the exertion of Talents far superior to mine. Thus while my heart has been seeking Retirement, I am called forth to more extensive service. I am desirous of looking upon this matter, not in a *secular* but a *religious Light*. As to *Interest*, there is no preference between *Newport*, *Portsm<sup>r</sup>* & *College*, either furnishing at best only a decent subsistence. To one that has been crowned with the academic *Honors* to Satiety, the super-added one of the Presidency will appear more than ballanced by its incessant Labors & weighty Cares. Tranquillity, Ease & Comfort cannot be expected in that Sella Curulis. On what Principles then shall I form my Judgment? There is none left but *Duty* & the Will of Heaven, not in this case at all indicated by secular Interest. To investigate this I have found but one way left, that is by looking abroad out of myself. In repeated days of fasting and prayer, I have asked Counsel of God, & sought Wisdom at the fountain of Light. I have consulted my scattered Flock, whose principal members have, by Letters & conversation, left the decision with me, rather intimating in a kind affectionate manner the accepting the presidency as my duty. You have assured me that, "as far as you are acquainted" my "Appointment is agreeable to the Ministry, to the Gen. Assembly & the State" of Connecticut. And on the Competition arising from the Call here, I have asked Council of two Associations, that of *Exeter* in this Vicinity, & that of *Boston*: both of which have expressed themselves clear in the opinion that it is my Duty to accept your Call as the distinguished Call of divine Providence. I have taken all the pains possible to learn my duty, & that I may not be self-deceived. I have consulted Gentlemen in different parts, and prayed them to consider the Inadequacy of my Abilities to the Work, to revolve all Circumstances, and faithfully to advise me, as friends to the Chhs., to the Cause of Jesus, to Literature & Virtue: and the surprizing Concurrence of the public Voice, and I hope an Influence from above, incline and even constrain me to view your Invitation as the Will of God, the ordering of Heaven, and the Call of divine Providence. And accordingly, with humble Reliance on the Grace of God, I do now hereby signify to the Reverend Corporation my *Acceptance of the Presidency of Yale College*.

I gave my Answer to Portsm<sup>o</sup> the 10<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>: and yesterday I wrote a Resignation of the pastoral Oversight of my Church & Congregation at Newport. And by the Leave of Providence I shall be ready, with my family, for a Removal to New Haven the beginning of June, and for an Inauguration into the office to which I have now devoted myself; unless you should judge it best on account of the public Affairs, to defer my Removal till the Fall. Whenever I remove, may Gd. enable me, to say from the heart, "If thy presence go not with me, carry me not up hence." I commit myself to your Friendship & Candor, and ask your Intercessions at the Throne of Grace for, Gentlemen,

Your most obed<sup>t</sup> & very hum. serv<sup>t</sup>.

PORTSMOUTH March 20, 1778.

EZRA STILES.

To Rev. Eliph<sup>a</sup> Williams, Senior Fellow &c.

I and my Daughters Kezia & Polly & my son Isaac went to the Small pox Hospital on Henzels Island about a mile out of Portsmouth; and at noon were inoculated by D<sup>r</sup> Stearns under D<sup>r</sup> Bracket who had the care of myself and Kezia; while D<sup>r</sup> Cutter inoculated & took the care of Isaac & Polly. Myself & Isaac were inoculated in the left hand between the Thumb & forefinger: & the others on the Arm. There were from 180 to near 200 Patients in the Hospital. We took each seven mercurial pills & 3 Purges before break<sup>e</sup> out. The pills about 2 gr. each. My whole seven were about twelve Grains of Calomel.

26. Kezia Isaac & Polly broke out.

30. I broke out, being twelfth day from Inoculation. . . .

May.

9. Isaac left the Hospital.

10. Ldsdy. Kezia left the Hospital. And at 11<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>h</sup> P.M. my daughters Emilia & Ruth & my Negro Servant Newport were inoculated at the Hospital by Dr. Hall Jackson.

11. About 128 Patients have been dismissed. This Spring D<sup>r</sup> Jackson has inoculated 377, D<sup>r</sup> Bracket 130, D<sup>r</sup> Cutter 100—Tot. about 600; of which phps. 400 Inhab. Portsmouth.

13. Fine fair day. Breeze N. W. I and Polly left the Hospital & returned home, having experienced the divine Protection. May we devote our spared Lives to the Glory of God. We were 25 days in the Hospital. I preached every Ldsday & one Fast, & prayed with the Hospital Morn<sup>e</sup> & Even<sup>e</sup> daily. [I baptized in the Hospital Patty D. of Mr. W<sup>m</sup> Davidson & Sarah his Wife of Hampton being dangerously ill of the small pox.]



15. Mr. Buckminster visited me.<sup>1</sup> He resigned the Tutorship in Yale College 2 m<sup>o</sup> ago ; & has a Call to the Ministry in the So. Chh. in Hartford.

16. My Daughter Betsy with Deacon Penhallow & Wife returned here from Inoculation in Boston.

17. Ldsdy. Mr. Buckminster preached for me. And I went over to Kittery & preached for Mr. Stevens A.M. fr. Ps. v, 11, 12 : returned after Dinner & preached at home from the same text. I baptized Olive Daughter of Ezekiel Pitman & Sarah his wife. I propounded W<sup>o</sup> Catharine Shackford & W<sup>o</sup> Mary Hart for full Communion. I notified Catechis<sup>g</sup> to morrow. I stayed the Chh. & Communicated to them M<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Clark Jun<sup>r</sup> his request of a Dismission from this Chh. & Recomend<sup>a</sup> to the first Chh. in Boston which have elected him unanimously Collegue Pastor with D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy. Mr. Buckminster preached this Aft. for M<sup>r</sup> Stevens who is sick, & M<sup>r</sup> Clark preached all day for D<sup>r</sup> Haven who is also sick. . . .

18. The news of a French War still doubtful.

19. Attended a Funeral & made a speech at the grave as usual.

21. The City of London petitioned the King to end the Amer. War, & he gave them a haughty Answer. This Morn<sup>g</sup> I baptized Margaret D. of Thos. & Lucy Jones of D<sup>r</sup> Havens Parish dangerously sick.

24. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Rom. xiv, 17, 18. Stayed the Chh. & took the Confession of Winthrop Bennet. . . . . P.M. Eph. ii, 7, and I baptized Winthrop Bennet & his Infant child John ; he first owning the Covenant & making Profession of the Faith. I notified the Congregation that I had received a Letter from the Corporation of Yale College inform<sup>g</sup> that they desired my immediate Removal, & hoped to have carriages here by the 3<sup>d</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> of next month : but that I purposed to tarry here a fo<sup>r</sup>t'night from this day & then to administer the Lds Supper & bid my Farewel to the flock. I propounded Mrs. Lowd for full Communion—so now there stand Eight Persons propounded for Admission to full Communion the next Sacrament day.

25. I catechised the Children. Emilia very ill espec. last night. I visited her in Hospital.

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Buckminster (Y. C. 1770). The result of this visit was his settlement in the following September over the church which Dr. Stiles was now supplying.

27. I saw Ruth this Morn<sup>g</sup>, but not Emilia—says both much better—Emilia a new Girl & in spirits. . . .

29. . . . I visited Rev. Mr. Lanckton of York & rode to Berwick.

30. Took Leave of my pious & worthy Friend Mrs. Moore æt. 72, and returned to Portsmouth. . . .

31. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. Ps. xvi, 11. P.M. 2 Cor. v, 11. . . . This Afternoon my Negro Man Newp<sup>t</sup> left the Hospital & returned home, having had no Eruption, but symptoms & an inflamed Arm. . . .

## June.

2. Congress have issued an Address to the Inhab. of the States to guard them against the insidious Measures of Parliament in affecting to propose a Reconciliation. A Treaty of Amity & Commerce between France & the United States was signed at Paris in perhaps Febr<sup>y</sup> last. . . . This Even<sup>g</sup> I married the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Haven & Mrs. Margaret Marshal both of Portsmouth.

3. I preached a Lecture for the Rev. Mr. Macclintoc at Greenland. And in the Even<sup>g</sup> I married Benjamin Adams Baker and Martha Lambeth.

4. This Afternoon my Daughters Emilia & Ruth returned from the Hospital. . . . In the Even<sup>g</sup> I preached my Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lect. 1 Cor. xi, 28.

5. At noon arrived here two Carriages from New Haven a Caravan & Waggon sent by the Corporation of Yale College to remove my Family: with a Letter from the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of 26<sup>th</sup> ult. & 500 Dollars for Travell<sup>s</sup> Expences. The Caravan is a neat Carriage for 4 persons.

6. Busied in preparing for Removal.

7. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached on Isai. xlv, 22, & admitted 7 persons into full Communion viz. Aells Hight W<sup>o</sup>, Katharine Shackford W<sup>o</sup>, Mary Hart W<sup>o</sup>, Katharine Wife of Gen. Whipple, Mary Brewster Wife of David, Mary Gaines<sup>t</sup> W. of George, & Abigail Loud. Then I administered the Lds Supper to phps. 80 Communicants. P.M. I preached to a crowded Assembly a Farewell Sermon upon 2 Cor. xiii, 11. After this I read an Address of Congress to the United States.

8. Putting my Things & preparing for Removal.

<sup>1</sup> Died April 9, 1780.

9. I freed or liberated my Negro Man Newport, about æt. 30. Settled all my Affairs, & myself & seven children set out in two Carriages for New Haven. One was a covered Waggon which carried four Beds, 3 large Boxes & 4 Children, setting out at X½ .A.M.; the other was a neat genteel Caravan, which was suspended upon steel springs as a Coach & carried myself & 3 children, setting out VI P.M.<sup>1</sup> I paid all my debts in Portsm<sup>o</sup> & had some money left. The Congreg<sup>a</sup> hav<sup>e</sup> been very liberal to me & my family. This day I visited & took leave of above 60 families, parting kindly & affectionately.

10. I took out 30 Doll.—Pd. at Sanborns 6 Doll. Ferry 2/. To Childrens acc<sup>o</sup> for last night £2.19.0. Dined at Treadwels Ipswich, £2.17.0. Saw the Picture of Gov. Leverett in possession of Mr. Treadwel. It had been in the family of Rogers, and Mrs. Treadwel is Daughter of Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rogers of Ipswich & thus the Picture lately came into her hands.<sup>2</sup>

Arrived & lodged at Piemonts in Danvers, having rode about 27 or 30 Miles this day.

11. Paid Piem<sup>t</sup> the exorbitant Bill of £6.4.0. Dined at Lynn, £2.14. Malden 6 7. Came to Cambridge—visited the Colleges. I lodged at Professor Sewals.

12. Charlest<sup>o</sup> ferry 2/6, (borrowed 2/6)

13. I left Cambridge. Was at Boston yesterday. Breakfast Jones 1 Dol. M<sup>r</sup> Sewals Maid 1 Doll. At Hows in Sudb<sup>y</sup> 3/8. 11½ m. from Hows to Rowe in Norbury, going thro' Marlboro. Took out 40 Doll. Tea Weston £4.3.0. Supper &c Sudbury £5.11. At Sudb<sup>y</sup> &c Rum 2 Doll. Dinner Martin's £2.7.

14. Ldsdy. Kept Sabb. at Shrewsbury with Rev. Mr. Sumner. I preached for him A.M. on Rom. iii, 23–26. P.M. Mr. Haven who travelled with us preached.

15. At Mr. Balwins Shrewsb<sup>y</sup> Reckoning £7.12. Have now on hand 290 Dollars. At Worcester Milk Punch 10/ q<sup>t</sup> Rum 14/ borrowed 1 Doll. Dined at a private house Mr. Sargeants in Leicester @ 3/ —£1.4. Spencer 4/6. Beer 1/. Dined at

<sup>1</sup> The account of the journey which follows is supplemented from the MS. *Itinerary*.

<sup>2</sup> Martha, wife of Jacob Treadwell, was the only surviving child of the Rev. Nathaniel Rogers (see this Diary, June 14, 1775), and of his wife, a daughter of President Leverett & great-granddaughter of Governor Leverett. The portrait is now in the possession of the Essex Institute in Salem. For a description see the *Leverett Memorial*, pp. 91–92.



@ 3 each, about 24<sup>l</sup> but forget. Punch P.M. 1 Doll. At Leicester Mr. Rivera a Jew Merch<sup>t</sup> at part<sup>s</sup> presented us with half dozen Bottles Wine &c.

16. Lodged at Brookf<sup>d</sup> at Mr. Hills 63 m. from Boston. Liquor £1.7.0 being 2 double Bowls Milk Punch at 2 Doll. each. 8 suppers @ 3 . Lodging 8<sup>l</sup>. At Rices Breakfasted 4<sup>l</sup> & 3<sup>l</sup> apiece—27<sup>l</sup>. Dined at Weston, Bascomb 46 (Bot. set cups & saucers 4 Doll., a Bowl 1 Doll. Sugar Cup 1½ Doll. = 38<sup>l</sup>. Borrowed it.) Took out 28 Doll. & have besides about 230 left. 8 Dinners @ 5 each: ½ pt. Rum, 4<sup>l</sup>; Sider & water 2<sup>l</sup>. At III<sup>h</sup> P.M. in Western Thermom<sup>o</sup> 83 in shade.

17. Lodged, Bliss's, Palmer, from B<sup>n</sup> 78, from Springfield 18½ M. 8 suppers @ 3, £1.4; 3 Beds, 6<sup>l</sup>; Phlip 5<sup>l</sup>; Beer 1<sup>l</sup>. Breakfasted at Scotts in Palmer, @ 4<sup>l</sup> £1.16. Wilbraham, Bliss's 5<sup>l</sup>. Turned at 87 M.Stone. Burts, Dinner @ 4<sup>l</sup>. flip 6<sup>l</sup> &c. &c. 7 Doll. Cyder & Water 2<sup>l</sup>.

18. Lodged at Somers. Lodging 5<sup>l</sup> for Girls. Supper at Kibbè, for 5 @ 1.6. Lodging for 3 @ 1<sup>l</sup>. At Holtons at Ellington Breakfast @ 4<sup>l</sup>. Liquor 1 Doll. Dined at Bissels in Windsor, 7 Dinners 16<sup>l</sup>: ½ pt. Rum, 4<sup>l</sup>; Bowl Tody 5<sup>l</sup>; Oats 9.9. Lodged at Woodbridge's E. Hartford. Mr. Haven & self lodged at Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Wms. I waited on Rev. Eliph. W<sup>ms</sup>, Senior Fellow, who gave me the care of the College.

19. At M<sup>r</sup> Woodbridge's 22 6. Ferry, Breakfast @ 4<sup>l</sup> &c. at W<sup>ms</sup> in Weathersfield, £2. At Worthington Dinner at Rileys @ 2<sup>l</sup>.

20. Lodged at Hall's in Wallingford last night. 8 Suppers @ 2<sup>l</sup>; Lodging 6<sup>l</sup>; Toddy 1 Bowl 5<sup>l</sup>; Liquor 2.6. Breakfast Horsfords, Wallingford, 17<sup>l</sup>. Arrived at N. Haven about noon. Deo Opt. Max. Grates. Dinner for 9 persons & Bowl Punch. Add ½ doz. & more Bottles Wine, &c.

Expences of Travel about 230 Doll. besides the cost of the Carriages. Thro' the good hand of our God we arrived safe without any Accident.

At my Accession to the Presidency of Yale Coll. 1778 the Presid<sup>ts</sup> of the Amer. Colleges, are.

|                           |                  |                  |
|---------------------------|------------------|------------------|
| Harv. Coll.               | founded 1638 . . | Rev. Dr. Langdon |
| Yale Coll.                | " 1700 . .       | E. S.            |
| Jersey Coll. Nass.        | " 1746 . .       | Dr. Witherspoon  |
| Philad <sup>a</sup> Coll. | " 1750 . .       | Dr. Smith.       |
| Kings Coll. N. Y.         | . . 1755 . .     | Dr. Cooper—fled  |

|                                    |          |               |
|------------------------------------|----------|---------------|
| Queens Coll. Jers.                 | 177 . .  |               |
| Dartmouth Coll.                    | 1769 . . | Dr. Wheelock  |
| Providence Coll.                   | 1763 . . | Mr. Manning   |
| W <sup>m</sup> & Mary's Coll. Virg |          | Mr. Maddison. |

21. Ldsdy. I am now entering upon a new scene of Life. I have done with the stated Labors of the evangelical Ministry, which for so many years past has been my great Delight. The Professor of Divinity preaches in the College Chapel on Ldsdy. The College is now empty. The Students are ordered to assemble here the 23<sup>d</sup> Instant. I chose not to preach to day. To show my respect I attended the Rev. Mr. Whittelseys Meeting<sup>1</sup> A.M. & heard him preach on Godliness with Content is great gain. P.M. I attended Rev. Mr. Edwards' Meeting<sup>2</sup> & heard him preach on It is high time to awake &c.

22. Viewing the College & Presidents house,<sup>3</sup> & looking up Furniture.

23. Began my office as President of Yale College. The College officers present are, besides myself

|                                            |                 |
|--------------------------------------------|-----------------|
| Dr. Dagget Professor of Div <sup>y</sup>   |                 |
| Mr. Strong Professor of Math. & Nat. Phil. |                 |
| Mr. Tutor Baldwin                          |                 |
| Mr. Tutor Robinson                         | } Tutors Elect. |
| Mr. Tutor Atwater                          |                 |
| Mr. Atwater, Steward                       |                 |

The Scholars begin to come in. We examined two Freshmen. I set up Orders by Attend<sup>g</sup> public Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers in the Chapel<sup>4</sup>—present about 40 Students Undergraduates. This was my first public act as President. I was accomp<sup>a</sup> fr. the President's House by 2 Professors. 2 Tutors & 2 Graduates. I began with asking a Blessing on the Word, then read 1<sup>st</sup> Chap. Matt. then sang one of Watts's Psalms and prayed. I lodged in the President's House for the first Time—my Daugh. at Col. Hubbard's.<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> The First Church, nearly on the site of the present building.

<sup>2</sup> The Blue Meeting House, on the southeast corner of Church and Elm streets, occupied by the White Haven Society, of which the pastor was the Rev. Jonathan Edwards, the younger.

<sup>3</sup> Built in 1722, nearly on the site of the present College Street Hall.

<sup>4</sup> The Chapel, built in 1761-63, was later known as the Athenæum, and was removed in 1893.

<sup>5</sup> Dr. Leverett Hubbard (Y. C. 1744), Mrs. Stiles's eldest brother, lived in the stone house still standing at the junction of George and Meadow streets.



[Map of New Haven drawn by Dr. Stiles in 1775.]

1. Yale College. 2. First Church (Rev. Mr. Whittelsey). 3. White Haven Church (Rev. Dr. Edwards). 4. Fair Haven Church (Rev. Mr. Mather). 5. Burying ground. 6. Episcopal Church (Rev. Mr. Hubbard). 7. Court House. 8. Jail. 9. President Stiles's house. 10. New Township.



24. At Ten o'Clock A.M. fell a great eclipse of the Sun : a great part of the Time invisible by reason of Clouds—but visible at its height when I judged its greatest Obscuration  $10\frac{1}{2}$  Digits or nearly Eleven Digits. Admitted Perkins & Parmele into the freshman Class. Examined & admitted Smith 2 into the fresh. Class. Locating ; & assigned the Chambers.

The Rev. Warham Williams one of the Fellows was empowered by the Corporation to introduce myself & two Tutors Elect into Office. Accord<sup>d</sup> after Eveng. Prayers, he being present in the Chapel, he pformed it. Mr. Tutor Robinson for himself & Atwater<sup>1</sup> read their consent to the Confession of Faith &c. & then Mr. Williams declared them Tutors duly qualified & in office & committed to Mr. Rob. the care of the Sophomore Class, & to Mr. Atwater that of the Freshmen. He also committed the College to my care, in the name of the Corpor<sup>a</sup>, giving me Power to act with the Authority of a President & order<sup>s</sup> the Scholars to receive & Submit to me as such. He also notified all that the Corpor<sup>a</sup> would meet here the 8<sup>th</sup> July, when my Instalment would be attended. Present about 60 Scholars.

25. Still locating the Rooms. Examined Farrand & Wright & admitted them Freshmen. Disciplined Cowles & examined & admitted him into the Sophomore Class. Examined a number of the Freshmen Class accord<sup>d</sup> to Order of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> w<sup>c</sup> had been assigned to different places to pursue their studies under private Instructors, in the broken state of the College in these tumultuous Times, & found them to have made a laudable Proficiency, & so I established them in their standing. Appointed Meigs Monitor of the 2 upper Classes & Miller of the lower ones.

26. This morning Cowles made a public Confession in the Chapel & was restored to favor—& admitted into the Sophomore Class of the present year, tho' he had been before in a higher (the present Junior) Class. This Morn<sup>g</sup> all the Classes began Recitation. I took upon me the Instruction of the Senior Class, consist<sup>d</sup> of 38, who recited to me for the first Time in Locke on hum. Und. V. 2. Commons this day set up & 82 *Students dined* in the Hall besides Professor Strong & 2 Tutors. I appointed Williams, Nott & Elles Waiters in the Hall.<sup>2</sup> Yesterday I appointed Stebbins a Freshman

<sup>1</sup> William Robinson (Y. C. 1773) and Noah Atwater (Y. C. 1774).

<sup>2</sup> The Dining Hall was the room at the south end, on the first floor, of the old College building, built in 1717-18, on a part of the site of the present Osborn Hall.

to ring the Bell for Prayers, Recitations, &c. & released him from going of Errands for any but the Authority of College. Examined & approved several of the Junior Class.

27. I appointed Stevens a Soph. Waiter in the Hall, the Number in Commons requiring four. This Even<sup>g</sup> I began an Exposition in the Chapel upon the Savoy Confession adopted in 1708 by the Chhs in Connecticut.

28. Ldsdy. Professor Dagget preached all day & I sat still pro more Præsidis. A.M. Luke xvi, 31. P.M. Prov. In the Even<sup>g</sup> at Prayers S<sup>r</sup> Strong read one of D<sup>r</sup> Gales Sermons in the Chapel.<sup>1</sup>

29. Much Difficulty in getting Furniture & Servants to settle in the Presidents house. Some of the family dined here. The Seniors held a pub. Syllogistic Disput<sup>a</sup> in the Chapel on the Question or Thesis,

“Diluvium Noachi fuit universale.”

Barlow was Respond<sup>t</sup> the rest Opponents. This the first Time I have moderated in a Syllog. Dispute these 23 years. This Even<sup>g</sup> I began to read the Book of Customs<sup>2</sup> in the Chapel. *Present 103 Undergraduates.*

30. The Seniors disputed forensically on the Question whether “Learning increaseth Happiness?” I dined at home the first Time. Busy in committing an Oration to Memory. Present at prayers 100.

July.

1. The Seniors petitioned me for 2 Recit<sup>a</sup> a day.

2. At V<sup>h</sup> P.M. I gave an oral extemporaneous Lecture to the Senior Class, upon the 3 great principles of Gravity viz. the Diminution or Increase of it as we approach or recede fr. the attract<sup>g</sup> body or the Celerity of falling or ascend<sup>g</sup> Bodies in the Ratio of the sq<sup>rs</sup> of the Times. 2. The sesquiplicate Ratio of revolving Bodies. 3. Their Description of Areas proport. to the Times, or equal Areas in &c. A Thunder Gust took place in the Lecture, & I desisted & gave the electrical Philosophy of Thunder & Lightning—then resumed & finished on Gravity.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> It was the custom for a graduate student to read a sermon at Sunday evening prayers.

<sup>2</sup> A manuscript drawn up by Pres. Clap, and expounded by him *seriatim* in chapel. See Professor J. L. Kingsley's *Sketch of the History of Yale College*.

<sup>3</sup> An entry in Dr. Stiles's Almanac for this day is:

Eleanor (Nelly) O'Harra came to live with us @ 4/ per week.

3. At V<sup>h</sup> P.M. I exhibited a Lecture in the Chapel upon the Oriental Learning. News of a Battle near Mt. Holly between the two Armies last Mondy.

4. Reviewed the Monitors Bills contain<sup>g</sup> 131 names of which 19 not yet arrived. All in Town viz 112 Scholars Undergraduates were at Prayers last night.

|         |   |   |   |   |           |          |
|---------|---|---|---|---|-----------|----------|
| Seniors | . | . | . | . | 38        | 6 absent |
| Juniors | . | . | . | . | 31        | 6 "      |
| Soph.   | . | . | . | . | 33        | 5 "      |
| Fresh.  | . | . | . | . | 29        | 2 "      |
|         |   |   |   |   | <hr/> 131 | <hr/> 19 |

5. Lds Dy. A.M. Dr. Dagget preached on 1 Cor. v, 7, 8, and administered the Lds supper: He signified my Desire to Communicate as also the Desire of 2 Undergraduates. There were present only thirteen communicants, viz. nine Undergraduates, Mr. Tutor Atwater (who carried the Elements), Professor Strong, the D<sup>r</sup> & myself. P.M. I preached in the Chapel on 2 Tim<sup>o</sup> iii, 17.

6. Admitted Cooke son of Gov. Cooke of Providence into the Sophomore Class:—he was of the Senior Class in Providence College; but the Tumults there for two years past hav<sup>g</sup> prevented his Studies, he asked only an Admiss. into the Soph. Class, the stand<sup>g</sup> he was in when their College broke up & dispersed. About 96 in Commons.

7. To morrow is to be my Inauguration or Instalment into the important & laborious office of the Presidency; and Mr. Clarke is to be ordained the same day in Boston. An important day to both of us! . . . . I would have gladly set apart a day of Fast<sup>g</sup> at Portsmouth to seek of the Ld a right way for me & my children Ezra viii, 21, but was interrupted in the Hurries of Removal. I wish to have done the same for the Morrow, but I cannot. The Good Ld. be with me & bless me.

8. The Corporation met here yesterday, & this day attended my Inauguration or Instalment into the Presidency of Yale College.

Present

|                         |   |                           |                  |
|-------------------------|---|---------------------------|------------------|
| Rev. Mess <sup>rs</sup> | { | Eliphalet Williams        | presiding Fellow |
|                         |   | Warham Williams           |                  |
|                         |   | Stephen Johnson           |                  |
|                         | { | Elizur Goodrich           |                  |
|                         |   | Moses Mather              |                  |
|                         |   | Sam <sup>l</sup> Lockwood |                  |
|                         | { | Tim <sup>o</sup> Pitkin   |                  |



The ceremony was thus. At X<sup>12</sup><sup>h</sup> A.M. the College Bell rang, and a Procession was formed & moved from the Chapel to the Presidents House, consisting of the four Undergraduate Classes and the resident Bachelors. Having received the President Elect & the Corpor<sup>a</sup> &c the procession advanced & returned to the Chapel in the following Order, viz.

The Students being 116 Undergrad. present  
Bachelors of Arts  
The Beadle & Butler with the College Charter  
Records, Key, and Seal  
The Rev. Eliph. W<sup>ms</sup> Senior & presiding Fellow  
The Hon. Jabez Hamlin Esq. & President Elect  
The Reverend Corporation  
The Professors of Divin<sup>y</sup> & Mathem.  
The Tutors Masters of Arts  
Ministers & respectable Gentlemen.

The Process. having arrived at the Chapel, the President pro Tempore took the Desk & began the Solemnity with Prayer. After this he communicated to the assembly the Design & purpose of the Meet<sup>s</sup>, the Election of the Corporation & my accept<sup>a</sup> and asked the Hon. Col. Hamlin as one of the Council of the State of Connect. to administer to me as Presid<sup>i</sup> Elect the Oath of Allegiance to the State, in conformity to the Charter. Which being done, I then read my assent to the Confess. of Faith &c in these words.

YALE COLLEGE July 8<sup>th</sup> 1778.

"I, Ezra Stiles, being chosen President of Yale College, do hereby declare my free Assent to the Confession of Faith & Rules of Ecclesiastical Discipline, agreed upon by the Churches in the State of Connecticut A.D. 1708, and established by the Laws of this Government: and do promise to teach & instruct the Pupils under my care accordingly.

EZRA STILES."

Thereupon Mr. Williams delivered from the Desk the following Oration in Latin, in which he committed the College to my Care Instruction & Government, constituting me *President* and *Professor of Ecc. History*.

"Collegiorum Institutio, Auditores Spectatissimi, ad Juvenes omni Literaturâ utili instruendum, Emolumento publico magnoperè conducit. Tale Patrum nostrorum propositum dignum ac benevolum erat, in hoc loco Academiam fundandi. In quâ Academiâ educati permulti fuerunt viri, tum Ecclesiæ tum Republicæ Ornamenta. Continuatio adhuc ipsius, et Fundaminis ejus

finem vere æstimabilem tam bene promoventis, favor providentiæ divinæ, magnus est. Ac ut in futurum florescat, quòd Ductoribus propriis induta sit ad gubernandum et docendum perneccesarium est; in hac Re Emolumento ejus consuluerunt Curatores optime. Et prima Cathedra, scilicet Presidis, nuper vacua, Reverendum Ezram Stiles, sacræ Theologiæ Doctorem, ad munus isthoc maximi Momenti, eligerunt. Ille (Grates Deo) idem accepit: nec dubitamus quin cum Dignitate plausuque, hujus Societatis honori, Stationem implebit: cui nunc vertat Oratio.

Domine Reverende ac valde æstimande. Quandoquidem tu Collegii Valensis Præsides electus fuisti, atque hoc opus arduum in commune Reipublicæ Literarum et Religiosis Beneficium capessere digneris: *Nos hujus Academiae Socii, nunc te Collegii Valensis Præsidem constituimus & annunciamus*; idem gubernandi ac dirigendi curam immediatam tibi committentes, cum omni Auctoritate ad Præsidem spectante. In cujus Testimonium tibi trado *Chartam, Claves, Tabellaria* atque *Sigillum* ad hanc Scholam et Universitatem pertinentia. Et dum Officia præterita Reverendi Doctoris Naphtali Dagget, qui quondam pro tempore præsidebat, permulta grate agnoscimus; tibi successorij ejus gratulamur: ac præsentiam divinam in Statione difficillima quòd largiter fruaris, cum longâ vitâ omnique felicitate, ab imo pectore præcamur.

Te quoque Professorem Historicum constituimus. Sub Auspiciis tuis diu floreat Academia (Vir Ornatissime); floreat erudita et optimæ Spei numerosa Juventus, germana Matris Academiae proles; insurgentis Sæculi quoque pars nobilis futuræ; floreat Pietas, ingenuus Candor, & Justitiæ Soror, incorrupta Fides, Morum Integritas atque omnigena Virtus. Postque Labores tuos, Domine, in terris benemeritis tibi Deus omnipotens concedat (in tempore longè remoto) è benignitate in Christo, sedem corruscantem Dignitatis & Gloriæ in Cœlis ascendere. Præsides venerande, Salveto. Academici, ac Auditores generosi, Salvete, vivite & valete." Dixi.

Upon which I made the following Addresses.

"Reverendi Socii

Oblatam mihi vestram Evocationem Deliberatione summa perpendi; quinimò Jejuniis Præcibusque Deum opt. max, ut Semitam recti aperiret oravi. Probe scitis, Domini, non mea me neque amicorum voluntas, sed *ψηφισματα* vestra, Laboribus hisce literatis advocaverunt. Cumque Electionem vestram inopinatò in me immeritum collatam, Ecclesiarum Pastoribus penè omnibus, Proceribus omnium Ordinum civilium, et denique Eruditis Patriæ nostræ gratam esse dicier atque jucundam: Cumque ni me fama fefellit, Reipublicæ literariæ totius fere Nov' Angliæ approbationem vocemque exaudiverim:—quidni diutius renuerem Ego, quin me cœlitus ad hoc munus evocari judicarem?

Quoniamque demùm, à te Reverende Domine, venerandi nomine Senatûs academici, et Officio & Auctoritate Præsidis indutus accingor; et Gubernatio Societatis hujusce mihi publicè demandata est, eandem ergo in meo Patrocinio Præsidiòque suscipio. Polliceorque vobis et Fidejussionem meam facio, cum Integritate administrationem academicam gerere, et Juvenibus erudiendis sedulo elaborare, primarioque Institutionis hujusce proposito cum fidelitate assequi.

Porrò è Cathedrâ professoriâ *Historiam ecclesiasticam* ita edocere enitar, ut studiosa Juventus de Rebus sacris tum *Ecclesiarum Apostolicarum*, tum *Reformationis*, tum *Americæ* probè instructa fuerit.

Imbecillitates meas innumeras graviter sentio. Præbete igitur, Fratres Reverendi, Benignitatem, Amicitiam Auxiliumque vestrum: Præcibusque vestris mihi jugiter adjuveretis peto, ut opus à vobis mihi devolutum, à me tandem ita perficeretur ut omnia ad Academiæ nostræ Emolumentum, ad Literaturæ Decus et Honorem, denique ad Jesu Numinisque triunius Gloriam evenirent.

Juvenes, Alumni academici.

Autoritate mihi demandatâ, quaque me accinctum vidistis, vosmet omnes, dilecti Musarum Filii, in meo Patrocinio Præsidioque suscipio. Animis perpendite vestris, quòd Assiduitate discendi, Moribusque pollendis amœnis, et Honore mihi et honore vobis denique honore academiæ nostræ tandem deveniretis. Itaque Emulatio sit vestra, sitque mea, ut optimarum Artium Studiis, Literarum elegantiorum cultu, solidissimæque Eruditionis Dignitate Collegii Yalensis Fama tam insignis fieret, ut nulli Sorori Academiæ de nobis pudeat, quin potius omnes Sodalitatis nostræ Honore egloriarentur. Immo omnes academias Literarum Gloria superare conemur—et creditote quod superare potuerimus—adeo ut Universitas nostra inter cœteras Academias americanas Splendore eluceat uti *Luces inter Luna minores*. Pupilli dilecti & amandi, salvete omnes, et estote beati.

Vosque Domini, aliquovis Gradu laureati, in Amicitîâ meâ accipio et amplector; polliceorque vobis et opem & Adjumentum meum, Studiis vestris ulterioribus prosequendis; ut Literaturæ demùm et Urbanitate politi, Utilitati altissimisque Dignitatibus tum in Ecclesiis tum in Republica meritò conscenderetis.

Vos autem, Reverendi Professores Tutoresque dilecti doctissimique, Commilitones και συνσπουδιστας mei fideles: Assiduitate summâ Emolumento Universitatis hujusce promovendo unâ nos και δημοθυμαδον elaboremus.

Illusterrissime & honoratissime Hamlin; in nomine Academiæ, tibi, Domine, totique Senatui Reipublicæ nostræ civilis Honores Academiæ et Salutem dico.

Denique vos omnes, Viri Literati Generosique cujuscunque Ordinis quotquot adestis: memet Candore recipiatis et Benevolentîâ vestrâ humilimè peto."

This ended I sat down in the President's chair in the Desk, put on my Hat and called for the Orator. Upon which Sir Dana one of the senior Bachelors ascended the Stage & delivered a congratulatory Oration in Latin.<sup>1</sup> Then I arose, took off my hat, and made a Latin Oration upon the Encyclopædia of Literature, in delivering which I was thirty four minutes. The Senior Class then sang an Anthem being the 122<sup>d</sup> Psalm set to music. I closed with a Blessing. After giving a general Invitation to Dinner in the Hall, I walked out first and with the Corpor<sup>a</sup> Ministers &c &c went into the Library<sup>2</sup> till Dinner time. After Dinner I retired with

<sup>1</sup> This Oration by Samuel W. Dana is preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers.

<sup>2</sup> The upper floor of the Chapel.



the Corporation to Business. All was conducted without any Indecency, and with Propriety & Academic Decorum. The Undergraduates requested of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> Permission to illuminate College and discharge Canon in the Even<sup>g</sup>. We did not directly refuse it; but dissuaded them from it. All was Peace & Tranquillity, & Even<sup>g</sup> prayers attended as usual.

9. Admitted Goodrich into the Senior Class & Bradford into the Junior Class—both from Dartm<sup>o</sup> College upon Recommend<sup>a</sup> of Mr. President Wheelock. . . . .

The 28<sup>th</sup> ult. there was a Battle between the two Armies in the Jersies, in which God gave us the Victory, the Enemy leaving on the field of Battle about 250 killed—at night they marched off for the heights about Sandyhook. A large Body 1000 or 1500 of the Eny. deserted to us upon this occasion. It is computed that their Army in marching from Philad<sup>a</sup> through the Jersies is damaged or disabled 3000.

The Corpor<sup>a</sup> voted a Degree of A.M. to Gabriel Hotchkiss, whose Diploma was the first I signed. It is concluded to have no public Commencem<sup>t</sup> this year. After finishing Business, the Corpor<sup>a</sup> returned for home.

10. I appointed Meigs to make a Latin Cliosophic Oration at the Senior Examination; Barlow to make a poetical Composition; Chaplin, Miller & Ely, an English Dialogue; and gave Liberty to the Class to elect a Valedictory Orator;—they chose Tracy. In Commons 102.

11. Reading the College Records; and making Entries here. Also began to read *Schroderi Thesaurus Linguae Armenicæ*. . . . . The Procession last Wednesday nearly thus.

116 Undergraduates

10 Bachelors of Arts,

2 Beadle, Col. Fitch; Butler, Sir Baldwin.

1 Rev. W. W<sup>ms</sup> presid<sup>g</sup> fellow.

2 Councillor & Presid. Elect.

6 Fellows of the Corpor<sup>a</sup>.

2 Prof Div<sup>y</sup>. D<sup>r</sup> Dagget; Prof. Math. Mr. Strong.

4 Tutors, Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Buckminster, Baldwin, Robinson & Atwater.

Say 10 Reverend Ministers

Say 6 Masters of Arts or more.

. . . Respectable Gentlemen.

Mr Buck. Resign<sup>a</sup> had not yet been accepted, & so I asked him to walk with the Tutors.

The day before my Instal<sup>mt</sup> I received a Staff or Cane with the following compliment.

“Ad Dominum Rev<sup>m</sup> Ezram Stiles Collegii Yalensis Præsidentem insignissimam, Salutem.

Domine benignissime & admodum Venerande PRÆSES.

Tuus Adventus ad hæc Sedilia nostra academica, quæ olim multos per annos moribus tuis probatissimis Auctoritate Consilioque sapientissimo exornasti, nobis pergratus & jucundissimus esse videtur: eundemque nunc tibi *omothumadon* gratulamur; et hunc Baculum, Manusculum quidem, sed tanquam Pignus nostræ erga te Benevolentia liberrimè tibi donamus.

Diu vivas, Domine amande, Columnen & Fulcimentum hujus nostræ Institutionis labeutis et caducæ—diutissimè floreat sub tuo Patrocinio et Moderamine sapientissimo, Academia nostra Yalensis—Floreat Literatura, et omnimoda Scientia utilis dulcis et gloriosa.

Et quamdiu hujus almæ matris nostræ Præfecturam teneris, maximam Fœlicitatem et Tranquillitatem facillimamque gubernandi Rationem tibi candidissimè exoptamus.—Et postquam Sedes Musarum amœnissimas reliqueris, et cursum vitæ sæcularem perficeris, Fructus uberrimos tuæ Industrie, Præmiaque Virtutis amplissima ut recipias summo opere avemus, et in sæcula sæculorum Vitâ beatificâ perpetuò in cœlis perfruaris.

Sic Scribimus

|                       |                                         |             |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------------|-------------|
|                       | NEHEM. STRONG, Math. & Phil. Nat. Prof. |             |
| Novo Portu die        | ABRAHAMUS BALDWIN                       | } Tutores.” |
| Julii 7 <sup>mo</sup> | GULIELMUS ROBINSON                      |             |
| A.D. 1778.            | NOACHUS ATWATER                         |             |

The *Oath of Fidelity* administered to me by the Hon. Col. Hamlin, one of the Council of the State of Connecticut, at my Inauguration.

“You Ezra Stiles do swear by the name of the everliving God that you will be true & faithful to the State of Connecticut, as a free & independent State, and in all Things do your Duty as a good & faithful subject of the said State, in supporting the Rights Liberties & Privileges of the same—

So help you God.”

This Oath substituted instead of that of Allegiance to the King by the Assembly of Connecticut May 1777 to be taken by all in this State; and so it comes into use in Yale College.

12. Ldsdy. Dr Dagget being absent I preached all day in the Chapel. A.M. Jn° x, 37, 38. P.M. Isai. xlv, 22.

Memorandum. Last week the Rev. Warham Williams delivered me one silver Dollar given by his Son before his Decease towds the

African Mission. I received it to deliver to Mr. Hopkins of Newport for that purpose.

13. The Seniors disputed syllogistically "Jus Regum non est Jure divino hæreditarium." At V.<sup>h</sup> P.M. I had a Lecture in the Chapel upon the civil Constitution & Policies of the XIII United States, both before & since the glorious Act of Independency, so far as the new Policies are formed—and they are all formed except for Massachusetts & pphs. N. Hampshire.

14. This is the Anniversary of the nativity of my dear Wife . . . . . The Seniors disputed forensically this day a twofold Question "Whether the Destruction of the Alexandrine Library, and the Ignorance of the Middle Ages caused by the Inund<sup>a</sup> of the Goths & Vandals, were Events unfortunate to Literature?" They disputed inimitably well; particularly Barlow, Swift, Webster, Gilbert, Meigs, Sage &c. Visited by Jno. Bartlett Esq, Physician & Surgeon Gen. N<sup>o</sup> Depart.—Gen. Gates.

15. . . . .

#### Catalogue of Yale College at my Instalment

July 8, 1778.

Ezra Stiles, President.

Rev. Napthali Dagget D.D. Prof. Divinity.

Rev. Nehemiah Strong A.M. Prof. Math. & Nat. Phil.

|                       |           |
|-----------------------|-----------|
| Abraham Baldwin A.M.  | } Tutors. |
| William Robinson A.M. |           |
| Noah Atwater A.M.     |           |

Mr. Jeremiah Atwater Steward.

Col. Jonathan Fitch Beadle.

Dudley Baldwin A.B. Butler.

Resident Bachelors

Sir Strong

Sir Goodrich

Sir Davenport

Sir Dana

[Sir Avery came July 24.]

#### SENIOR CLASS IN 1778.

Joel Barlow of Reading.

Phineas Bartholomew—Harwinton.

Ab<sup>m</sup> Bishop—New Haven.

Shubael Breed—Norwich.

Aaron Buel—Hebron.

Benjamin Chaplin—Mansfield.

Eben<sup>r</sup> Dagget—N Haven.

Jn<sup>o</sup> Alexis Dibble—Milford.

Obadiah Dickinson—Hatfield.

Henry Ely I.

Jon<sup>a</sup> Frisbie—Branford.

Ezek. Gilbert—Middletown.

Tho<sup>a</sup> Gold—Cornwall.

Oba<sup>d</sup> Hotchkiss I.—N. Haven.

Fred W<sup>m</sup> Hotchkiss 2<sup>dus</sup>—N Haven.

Stephen Jacob—Sheffield.



W<sup>m</sup> Johnson 1.—Lyme.  
 David Judson—Stratfd.  
 Aaron Kellogg—Amherst.  
 Nathan Leavenworth—Waterb<sup>y</sup>.  
 Josiah Meigs—Middlet<sup>n</sup>  
 Asher Miller— Do.  
 Jn<sup>o</sup> Mix—N Haven.  
 Jos. Noyes—Fairfield.  
 Giles Pettebone—Norfolk.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Reed—Salisb<sup>y</sup>.  
 Eben<sup>r</sup> Sage—Chatham.  
 Noah Smith—Rupert.

Josiah Spalding 1.  
 Asa Spalding 2.  
 Seth Storrs—Mansfield.  
 Zephan. Swift—Lebanon.  
 Uriah Tracy—Norwich.  
 Noachus Webster—Hartf<sup>d</sup>.  
 Jn<sup>o</sup> Welch—Litchfld.  
 Ichabod Wetmore—Middleton.  
 Alex. Wolcott—Windsor.  
 Oliver Wolcott—Litchfld.  
 Jn<sup>o</sup> Goodrich—Glastonb<sup>y</sup> 39.

## JUNIORS.

David Austin—N Haven.  
 Guliel. Baldwin—Branfd.  
     [Bradford]  
 Benja<sup>a</sup> Bell—IX partners.  
 Jer. Gates Brainerd—E. Haddam.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Catlin—Harwinton.  
 Justus Cook—Waterb<sup>y</sup>.  
 Ozias Eells—Middletown.  
 Zebulon Ely—Lyme.  
 Stephanus Fowler—Branf<sup>d</sup>.  
 Elizur Goodrich—Durham.  
 Silas Hazletine—Sutton.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Gul. Johnson—Stratfd.  
 Ambrosius Kirtland—Saybrook.  
 Jon<sup>a</sup> Maltbie—Branfd.  
 Nic<sup>o</sup> Shelton Masters—Woodb<sup>y</sup>.

Shadrach. Mead—Greenw.  
 Johan. Noyes 2.—Fairfld.  
 Elisæus Payn—  
 Saml. Pitkin—Hartfd.  
 Mat. Talcott Russel—Killingsby.  
 Gul. Seymour—Hartfd.  
 Joan. Stevens—N. Milford.  
 Jer. Townsend—N. Haven.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Webb—Stanford.  
 Gul. Welles—Glassenb<sup>y</sup>.  
 Gul. Whitman—Hartford.  
 Elisæus Whittelsey—Kent.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Whittelsey—N. H.  
 Ezek. Woodruff—Litchfld.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Woodward—Waterbury.  
 Georgius Wells—Glass. 31.

## SOPHIMORES.

Joan. Barnet—IX Part.  
 Jacobus Belden—Wethersfield.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Bostwick—N Milfd.  
 Stephen Chester } —Wethersfd.  
 Thomas Chester }  
 Mason Fitch Cogswell—Windh.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Cook—Providen.  
 Sol<sup>o</sup> Cowles—Farm.  
 Worthington Ely—Sayb.  
 Gul. Fowler—E. Hadd.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Gurley—Mansfld.  
 Mat. Griswold—Lyme.  
 Rogerus Do Do.  
 Joan. Law—Milfd.  
 Richd. Law—Do.  
 Joan. Lay—Sayb.  
 Oliverus Lewis—Farmington.

Tho. Lord—Lyme.  
 Neh. Mason—Lebanon.  
 Jon<sup>a</sup> Ogden Mosely—E. Had.  
 Æneas Munson—N. H.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Nott—Mansfld.  
 Tim. Phelps—Stafford.  
 Erastus Pixley—G. Bar.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Russel—Windsor.  
 Jabez Hunt. Tomlinson—Stratfd.  
 Lemuel Tÿler—Branfd.  
 Gul. Jos. Whiting—N. H.  
 Jacob. White—Mansfd.  
 Joshua Williams—Weathsfd.  
 Gul. Aug. W<sup>ms</sup>—Branfd.  
 Tho. Lindel Winthrop—N. Lond.  
 Gul. Woodbridge—Glassby. 33.

## RECENTES.

Jason Atwater—N. H.  
 Simeon Baldwin—Norw.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Boardman—N. Milfd.  
 Jesse Breed—Norw.  
 Simeon Breed—Norw.  
 Jon<sup>a</sup> Burral—Canaan.  
     Farrand—Canaan.  
 Elihu Gridley—Farm.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Hinckley—Brookfld.  
 Benj<sup>a</sup> Isaacs—Stamford.  
 Jacobus Kent—Philippi.  
 Tim. Lankton—Farm.  
 Jon<sup>a</sup> Miller—Torrington.  
 Sam<sup>l</sup> Newel—Farm.  
 Gul. Noyes 3.—Lyme.

Eph. Root—Coventry.  
 Enoc Perkins—  
 Reuben Parmele—  
 Jacobus Sacket—IX Part.  
 Israel Smith—  
 Seth Sam<sup>l</sup> Smith—Reads.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Smith—Hartfd.  
 Steph. W<sup>ms</sup> Stebbings—Springfld.  
 Dan<sup>l</sup> Tomlinson—Darby.  
 Sylvester Wells—Farm.  
 Joan. Williams—Wethersfd.  
 Nathan Wooster 1.—  
 Jos. Lucius Wooster 2.—  
 Elizur Wright—

29.

|          |    |   |
|----------|----|---|
| Seniors  | 39 | 4 |
| Juniors  | 31 | 3 |
| Soph.    | 33 | 0 |
| Recentes | 29 | 1 |

132

8 absent July 15, 1778.

124

Mem<sup>o</sup> July 15, 1778. Yale Coll. now consists of 132 of w<sup>e</sup> 123 present; 9 absent are

|      |   |                                         |                |
|------|---|-----------------------------------------|----------------|
| Sen. | { | Buell                                   | } with Liberty |
|      |   | Leavenw.                                |                |
|      | { | Welch—in Army                           |                |
| Jun. | { | Wolcott 1—came July 18, so 125 present  |                |
|      |   | Cook—License to Study at Mr. Benedicts. |                |
|      | { | Bell                                    |                |
|      | { | Welles                                  |                |

Freshm. Root—License to study at &c.

16. M<sup>r</sup> Tutors Baldwin & Robinson waited upon me and asked for a copy of my Oration for the Press; & shewed me a subscription for thirty dozen copies or Books. This Afternoon I had a Lecture in the Chapel upon Chronology.

17. The Hon. W<sup>m</sup> Ellery Esq. Member of Congress for Rh. Isld. visited me. He left Philad<sup>a</sup> last friday, where Congress had arrived 2<sup>d</sup> Inst. & there celebrated the Annivers<sup>y</sup> of Independency. I rode with him to Branford & had much Convers<sup>a</sup> upon public Affairs. The Confederation without Amendments is at last signed by 8 States.

18. A French fleet of large men o' war are arrived at Sandy Hook. A Body of Indians & Tories have made a Descent upon Susquehanna at Wyoming, & cut off the settlement there in a butcherly manner. An Ambassador from the King of France to Congress is arrived at Philadelphia. . . .

19. Ldsdy. D<sup>r</sup> Dagget preached upon Gen. iv, 7, A.M. and P.M. on Mat. x, 16, with an Address & Farewell to the Senior Class—this being the last Sabbath of their living in College. Present 35 or 36 of the Class. In his Address he gave them the Title of *Sirs*.<sup>1</sup>

20. I moderated at the Syllogistic Disputation of the Senior Class. *Sui ipsius Fœlicitas, non est ultimus finis agendi.* At V<sup>h</sup> P.M. Lecture upon Chronology. Cap<sup>t</sup> Wooster<sup>2</sup> left White Plains yesterday, tells me that Gen. Wash. & his Army have crossed N<sup>o</sup> River & are now at Whiteplains, where Gen. Gates & 6000 were before. The conjoyned Army is 25,000. The Army of the Enemy at crossing Jersey 10 or 11,000. They are arrived at N. York. . . .

21. War was [said to have been] declared 19<sup>th</sup> May in France against Engld. The Seniors disputed forensically, Whether a *Toleration of all Religions is beneficial to the State?* After the Battle & Victory at Monmouth Courthouse G. Lee was arrested, & has been tried by a Court Martial . . .

22. The Seniors finished 2<sup>d</sup> vol. of Locke. Attended Professor Strong's Phil. Lecture. This Aft. passed thro' Town Gen. Hancock from Congress.

23. This day [I bid farewell to the Cand. who presented me 42 Doll. Gratuity, &] was attended the public examination of the Senior Class. The Candidates being in the Chapel A.M. the Examinatores sent the Junior Tutor & Vice Bedellus to wait upon the Presid<sup>t</sup> in the Lib<sup>y</sup> to ask Leave & Author<sup>y</sup> to examine &c. The Prest. granted Leave and delivered them a Diploma empowering the Professors, Tutors & Graduates &c. This being read in the Chapel, the Senior Tutor presid<sup>g</sup> in the Examination, the Consensus Examinatorius proceeded & examined the Cand. in the Languages, part<sup>y</sup> in Cicero de Orat. & the Greek Testament. A Recess of half an hour. Then resuming the Exercise, the Examination proceeded thro' the circle of the Sciences. The Professor of Div<sup>y</sup>, 2 Ministers

<sup>1</sup> The title given to Bachelors of Arts.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Wooster (Y. C. 1768), of New Haven, son of the late Gen. David Wooster, and grandson of President Clap.



of the T<sup>o</sup> & another Minister having accompanied me to the Lib<sup>y</sup> about 1<sup>h</sup> P.M., the middle Tutor waited upon me there & informed that the Exam. was finished, & they were ready for the Presentation. I gave Leave, being seated in the Lib<sup>y</sup> between the above Ministers. Thereupon the Examiners, preceded by the Professor of Mathematics, entered the Lib<sup>y</sup> & introduced 36 Candidates—a beautiful Sight! The Diploma Examinatorium, with the Return & Acts inscribed upon it, was delivered to the President, who gave it to the Vice Bedellus, direct<sup>s</sup> him to read it. He read it & returned it to the Presid. to be deposited among the Coll. Archives in perpetuum Rei memoriam. The Senior Tutor thereupon made a very eloquent Latin Speech & presented the Candidates for the Honors of College<sup>1</sup>. This Present<sup>a</sup> the Pres<sup>t</sup> in a Latin Speech accepted, & addressed the Gentlemen Examiners & gave the latter Lib<sup>y</sup> to return home till Commencement. Then dismissed.

At about III<sup>h</sup> P.M. the Aft. Exercises were appointed to begin. At III<sup>12</sup><sup>h</sup> the bell tolled & the Assembly convened in the Chapel, Ladies & Gentlemen. The Pres<sup>t</sup> introduced the exercises in a latin Speech, & then delivered the Diploma Exam. to the Vice Bedellus, who stand<sup>s</sup> on the pulpit Stairs read it publickly. Then succeeded

|                                         |                         | begun               | ended               |
|-----------------------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Cliosopic Oration in Latin by . . . . . | Sir Meigs               | III <sup>h</sup> 47 | III <sup>h</sup> 58 |
| Poetical Composition—Eng. by . . . . .  | Sir Barlow <sup>2</sup> | III.59              | IV.11               |
| Dialogue—Eng. . . . .                   | Sir Miller              | IV.12               | IV.21               |
|                                         | Sir Chaplin             |                     |                     |
|                                         | Sir Ely                 |                     |                     |
| Clios. Orat. Eng. . . . .               | Sir Webster             | IV.22               | IV.38               |
| Disputation. Eng. . . . .               | Sir Wolcott             | IV.50               |                     |
|                                         | Sir Swift               |                     |                     |
|                                         | Sir Smith               |                     |                     |
| Valedictory Orat. Eng. . . . .          | Sir Tracy               | V.6                 | V.28                |
| An Anthem.                              |                         |                     |                     |

I introduced the Aft. exercises thus.

“Ut Cura nostra Gradibus academicis conferendis innotescat, et nec nisi bene merentibus idoneisque dandi sint Honores Literaturæ videatur; exaudiamus Acta Cœtus & Consessûs Examinatorii hodierni candidatis tum in Linguis tum

<sup>1</sup> This custom of presenting the Senior Class to the President as candidates for degrees, on Presentation Day (afterwards called Class Day) continued in vogue for about ninety years later.

<sup>2</sup> This poem, by Joel Barlow, was published the same year.

in Scientiis exercendis probandisque. Itaque Vice-Bedellus publice perleget Diploma examinatorium et Consessûs Acta in eodem conscripta, eademque à Tutore Seniore & consedentium nomine & autoritate data atque tradita."

The Diploma &c finished, I addressed the Candidates.

"Domini Candidati

E Testimonio Consessûs Exam., vos omnes uti idoneos ad Gradum primum in Artibus capessendum probatos accipio. Quem Gradum vobis usitato Comitiorum Tempore conferendum expectatis."

The Students had been relaxed from Recitations & Studies for the day; and Decency in Amusements was recommended, & observed in the day & evening.

Yesterday I made the following appointments for fall Examinations.

| Juniors. |      |            | Soph.     |      |            | Freshmen. |      |           |
|----------|------|------------|-----------|------|------------|-----------|------|-----------|
| Johnson  | Lat. | } Orators  | Barnet    | Lat. | } Orators. | Gridley   | Lat. | } Orators |
| Goodrich | Eng. |            | Mason     | Eng. |            | Stebbins  | Eng. |           |
| Brainerd |      | } Dialogue | Tomlinson |      | } Dial.    | Breed     | 2    | } Dial.   |
| Russel   |      |            | Williams  | 2    |            | Baldwin   |      |           |
| Whitman  |      |            | Lewis     |      |            | Noves     |      |           |

This evening I appointed Goodrich & Whittelsey Monitors.

24. The Printer asks £65 L.M. for 1000 Catalogues on a sheet, & £45 in a pamphlet.<sup>1</sup> Gen. Wash. has sent off 2 Brigades for Providence.

25. At midnight one of Gen. Wash. Aid de Camps came here—rested till IV this morn<sup>e</sup>; and proceeded for Providence, which he intended to reach before he slept. He left Gen. Wash. at Whitepl. yesterday & informs the French *Brest* fleet is arrived at Sandy hook, that d'Estaigne has ordered this Division to block up Rh. Isld., where it is supposed they will arrive as soon as the Express arrives at Providence. He says the French fleet has taken 28 Sail of the Cork Store fleet.

26. Lds dy. The 2 Brigades &c lodged at Milford last night & travelled hither with their Baggage this Morn<sup>e</sup>. A few Waggon<sup>s</sup> were here by sunrise. They came in 3 Divisions. The Troops began to enter the T<sup>o</sup> a little before VII o'clock.

I<sup>st</sup> Div. Brig. Gen. Glovers Brigade, say 800

I counted 8 double files of say 20 to 25 abreast

10

8

8 at VII<sup>b</sup> A.M. Marquiss de la Fayette & suite.

<sup>1</sup>This refers to the Triennial Catalogue of the Alumni. The edition printed in 1778 was the last on a single sheet.

II<sup>d</sup> Div. Brig. Gen Varnums Brigade, say 600

9  
9 double, of w<sup>c</sup> each single 6, 7 or 8  
9  
8

10 at VII $\frac{1}{2}$

III<sup>d</sup> Col. Philips & 3 Reg<sup>ts</sup> last of w<sup>c</sup> 60 men. Tot. 3 to 400, say 300

8 double &c say 12 or 6 each single

12 VIII $\frac{1}{4}$

The whole Corps say 17 or 1800 phps. 2000, are commanded by Major Gen. the Marquis, 2 Brig. Gen. Glover & Varnum and Col. Philips whose Division is not yet brigaded.

At IX<sup>h</sup> the Marquis de laFayette æt. 22, and Gen. Varnum, with Col. Sherburn & Col. Fleury visited me. The Marquis had a Polander or Hussar for his Serv<sup>t</sup> dressed in Polish habit.

Three of the Officers dined with me. At IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. just at the finishing of Meetings the whole Corps began their march and left the Town by IV $\frac{1}{2}$ <sup>h</sup> : at which time the Marquiss & his suite came up to D<sup>r</sup> Dagget & myself just from Chapel, & took Leave. They proceed by 2 Rodes, Gen. Varnum & Col. Philips via Pauge Middlet<sup>n</sup> Hartf<sup>d</sup> &c, Gen. Glovers (in w<sup>c</sup> the Marquis) via Seaside.

|                                   |                      |               |
|-----------------------------------|----------------------|---------------|
| I. Gen. Glovers Div.              | 34 double files @ 18 | 600           |
| The Marquis de la Fayette & suite |                      |               |
| Guards                            | 18 @ 14              | 250           |
| II. Gen. Varnums Div.             | 27 @ 14              | 400           |
| III. Col. Philips, 3 Regts.       | 19 @ 12              | 300           |
|                                   | 98                   | 1550 Privates |

Say 100 double Files Total : besides Guards to Waggon & Baggage, & Officers.  
Total of the Corps *Two Thousand*.

In the Chapel the Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> preached A.M. Gen. iv, 7, a second Sermon on that Text. P.M. Isai. lv, 2. The Duties of this holy day have been greatly interrupted by the Army, altho' the Army made as little Disturbance as possible.

27. Col. Philips Div. left the T<sup>o</sup> this morning at III<sup>h</sup> & marched for Providence. The Marquiss de la Fayette told me he expected some of the French fleet to meet him at Newport.

I this day began to instruct a Class in Hebrew<sup>1</sup> and the Oriental

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Stiles's own knowledge of Hebrew was acquired after May, 1767, when he began to study the language by himself. He had afterwards a little assistance from Mr. Touro, the Jewish Chuzan at Newport.



Languages, which I selected out of all the other Classes as they voluntarily offered themselves. This is not required of a President ; but I wish to benefit the College to the utmost of my Power. Johnson<sup>1</sup> is the only undergraduate that now understands any thing of Hebrew—he has read something in the Psalter. Mr. Tutor Baldwin is a good Hebrician. The other Tutors & Professors have some small Knowledge of it. It has always been usual to initiate every Class a little into it : but the dispersed state of the scholars for 2 years past has prevented this & other usual Studies. The present Hebrew Pupils are

|          |   |                               |            |   |                              |
|----------|---|-------------------------------|------------|---|------------------------------|
| Freshmen | { | Simeon Baldwin                | Sophimores | { | Josh. Williams               |
|          |   | Jesse Breed                   |            |   | Sam <sup>l</sup> Nott        |
|          |   | Simeon Breed                  |            |   | W <sup>m</sup> Woodbridge    |
|          |   | St. W <sup>ms</sup> Stebbings |            |   | Sam <sup>l</sup> Gurley      |
| Juniors  | { | Zebulon Ely                   |            |   | Jn <sup>s</sup> Barnet       |
|          |   | S. W <sup>m</sup> Johnson     |            |   | T. L. Winthrop               |
|          |   | Ozias Eells                   |            |   | W <sup>m</sup> Aug. Williams |
|          |   | Whittelsey 2                  |            |   | Sam <sup>l</sup> Bostwick    |
|          |   | Russel 1                      |            |   | Tho <sup>s</sup> Lord        |
|          |   | Pitkin                        |            |   |                              |
|          | { | Hazeltine                     |            |   |                              |

28. Spent this Even<sup>g</sup> with Major Gen. Greene of Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> who left Gen. Wash. this morn<sup>g</sup> at Whiteplains. He tells me the whole French Fleet left the Hook Monday last week (July 20) for Newport. He estimates the whole Brit. Force in N. York & Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup>. *Eighteen Thousd* : of which 14 or 16,000 at N. York & L. Isl<sup>d</sup>.

It is said that 400 men are come over from L. Isl<sup>d</sup>. to Saybrook, as yesterday, to throw themselves on the Mercy & Protection of this State. Gen. Greene says we never had so good an Army as now—we have had more men—but these are *healthy & well disciplined & full of Life*.

It is said that M<sup>r</sup> Reed a Lawyer of Philad<sup>a</sup> has pub. a Lett. he received from Gov. Johnston in which the Gov. as Commissioner offered him Ten Thousd Guineas & the highest Office in America if he will assist in recovering America to the King. Mr. Reed replied, the King of Engld. had not Money eno<sup>t</sup> to purchase him.

31. Reading and teaching the Oriental Languages.

<sup>1</sup> A son of the Hon. William Samuel Johnson (Yale 1744).

## August

1. Sent a Letter to Deacon Penhallow at Portsm<sup>o</sup>. This Aft. rode to North Haven & visited my Mother, Brother & Sister there.

2. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel<sup>1</sup> A.M. 1 Cor i, 9. P.M. Rev. xxii, 17. After Sermon I lead 3 psons. to the public profession of Religion, viz. Eunice the wife of Stephen Atwater, Mabel the Wife of Sam<sup>l</sup> Bellamy, Hannah the wife of Jon<sup>a</sup> Alling, who gave their assent to the Doctrine of Faith, then by vote of uplifted Hands of the Brethren were admitted into full Communion, then I read them the Covenant to which they assented, and then in the name of the Chh., the B<sup>r</sup> ris<sup>g</sup> & stand<sup>g</sup>, I promised the Engagem<sup>t</sup> of the Chh to walk towards them &c. After this I baptized Lucy Daughter of Benj. Ferrel & his wife in the Congregation.

3. Returned to College. The French Fleet arrived at Newport Wedn<sup>y</sup> 29<sup>th</sup> Inst. & blocked it up.

4. This Aft. at VI<sup>h</sup> I saw a Brit. Fleet off New Haven standing to the Westward. They were from N. York bound to Newport, & coming to Newport the day after the French fleet put about & returned slowly with head Winds. The Pilot is returned thro' this Town, who conducted the French fleet from Sandy Hook to Rh. Isld.

5. Therm<sup>y</sup> 92. Breeze S.E. Fair. Attended Professor Strong's Phil. Lect. . . . .

6. At V<sup>h</sup> P. M. I read a public Lecture in the College upon Ecclesiastical History.<sup>2</sup> This is my first Lecture as History Professor.

## DUKE OF RICHMOND'S MOTION IN HOUSE OF LORDS APRIL 8, 1778.

—"That accord<sup>g</sup> to the Returns laid before this house the effective numbers of his Majestys Land forces in 1774 consisted of Six Thousd 884 men; in 1775 of Eleven Th. 219 men. In 1776 of forty five Th. 865 men. In 1777 of forty eight Th. 616 men.

That these Forces had the assist<sup>a</sup> of a very great and well appointed Artillery.

That in the course of the s<sup>d</sup> years there were employed no less than *Eighty three* men o'war & armed Vessels whose compl<sup>t</sup> of men amounted to *Twenty two Thous<sup>d</sup> three hundred & thirty seven*.

—Certainly this Country never sent out a greater or more respectable Force.

<sup>1</sup> The Congregational Church, at Mount Carmel, in the present town of Hamden, some three miles from North Haven village.

<sup>2</sup> A portion of Dr. Stiles's manuscript course of lectures on Ecclesiastical History is preserved in the Library of the Massachusetts Historical Society.

But great & respect<sup>a</sup> as it was, yet after three years Trial & various successes (among w<sup>h</sup> have been Victories obtained by his Majestys Troops over the chief Amer. Army the acquisitions we have made consist only in two *open Towns*, difficult to be maintained & a few Islds on the Coast, while all the Continental parts of Rhode Isd, N. York, Pensylv<sup>a</sup>, & the whole Provinces of N Hampshire, Mass. Conn, the 3 Co. on Delaware, Maryl<sup>a</sup>, Virg, N<sup>c</sup> Car<sup>a</sup>, So. Car<sup>a</sup>, & Georgia still remain unsubdued.

That there have been sent from G. Britain upwards of SIXTY THOUSAND *Land Forces* and TWENTY TWO *Thous<sup>d</sup> Seamen*.

That the Loss of men by death, desertion & otherwise in N<sup>a</sup> America accord<sup>s</sup> to the last Returns laid before this house had in the Land forces amounted to *Nineteen Thous<sup>d</sup> 381*, besides *five Thous<sup>d</sup> 336 Prisoners*; and that there were at that time *four thous<sup>d</sup> 639 sick*.

That the loss in the Navy appeared to have been *four Thous<sup>d</sup> 314 men*; so that there had been already lost to this Country at the Time when those returns were sent to Engl<sup>d</sup>. no less than *Twenty nine Thous<sup>d</sup> & thirty one men* exclusive of the sick.

|             |        |           |   |              |
|-------------|--------|-----------|---|--------------|
| Land Forces | 19,381 | Lost      | } |              |
|             | 5,336  | Prisoners |   | 24,717       |
|             | 4,639  | Sick      |   | 4,314        |
|             |        |           |   | <hr/> 29,031 |

That it appeared that the remains of the Army divided in Philad<sup>a</sup>, N. York, Rh. Isld., & Canada consisted all together of no more than *Thirty six Thous<sup>d</sup> 737* fit for Duty, Officers included.

That the value of the Captures made by the Americans on the Merch<sup>a</sup> of G. Brit. amount to upwards of *Two Millions Six hundred Thous<sup>d</sup> pounds*.

That the African Trade is almost annihilated hav<sup>g</sup> suffered a Diminution of no less than *One Million four hundred Thous<sup>d</sup> pounds* pr annum, &c."

Remarks. 1. The Crown paid for an Amer. Army of 60 Th. accord<sup>s</sup> to muster Rolls, which contain near a quarter of fictitious names & psons. never found. An Emolum<sup>t</sup> indulged the Officers. Say then all sent to Amer. did not exceed 45,000, in 4 years. 2. Of these about 25 Thous. lost & captivated; leaving 20 Thous. the fall of 1777, called by themselves 36 Thous<sup>d</sup> in their exaggerated Manner, reduced by Aug<sup>t</sup> 1778 to say 16,000. 3. If the prisoners did not excede 5336, how small was Gen. Burgoyne's Army? for there were some prisoners besides. The Enemy & Tories estimated Burgoyne's Army last year 11,000 at least & that 8 or 9000 of these were brot. from Europe. I used to estimate it from the Reg<sup>t</sup> *five Thous<sup>d</sup>* & I believe I was nearly right. It is not likely the Eny. would augment the number of Prisoners. However if Britain has indeed employed above 80 Th. men for our subjugation, the greater is American glory in having successfully withstood so great & formidable a Force.



## 7. Transcribing my Oration for the Press.

8. A flag from L. Isld arrived here this day, & informs that a Brit. Fleet is arrived at N. York—& it is said that L<sup>d</sup> Howe has sailed for Newport, Rh. Isld. This was the first Tory story. P.M. There came one in this flag who left the City of N. York the day before yest<sup>r</sup> & says the Brit. fleet is *not* arrived. However I expect one.

9. Ldsdy. Dr. Dagget preached A.M. 1 Pet. v, 5, 6. P.M. Acts ix, 5. Reading Lactantius.

10. This Eveng. a Report came here by one from N. London, that Gen Sullivan landed on Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> last Saturday with 5000 men: but there are so many flying reports. that we know not what to believe till it becomes authenticated.

11. Cap<sup>t</sup> Punchard in a Coaster from Dartm<sup>o</sup> arrived here this Even<sup>g</sup> & says. that yest<sup>r</sup> morning (Aug 10) he passed by Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup>—that L<sup>d</sup> Howe with a Brit. fleet of 26 sail from N. York had anchored off ag<sup>t</sup> Rh. Isld. the night before last: but early in the morning sailed out to sea, the French fleet follow<sup>d</sup> them, having left two French 74 G. Ships to continue the Blockade—and that G. Sullivan had actually landed upon Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> with about 7000. His Army is called Thirteen Thous<sup>d</sup>. Gen. Hancock of Congress being at Boston has set off for Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> Army with a Corps of Volunteers. There is an amazing Spirit for rushing towards Rh. Isld. spread 100 miles round. Militia are gone thither fr. beyond New Haven. Much firing it is said was heard all day yesterday. Conjectured to be an action between the two fleets. The good Lord be with us in the momentous Enterprizes of the present day. . . . The great Mr. Pitt, L<sup>d</sup> Chatham is certainly dead. He died about 8 or 10 May last.

13. Storm & high winds NE. Much concerned about the fleet. However this Even<sup>g</sup> by a man from the Eastw<sup>d</sup> it is said the French fleet last Monday pursued the Brit. fleet till they scattered, & then returned to Newport Monday night. If so phps. safe: tho' the storm has been very violent and must have endangered the shipping in Narraganset Bay.

14. Cloudy, the wind round at SE. but light. A coaster from Rh. Isld. says he left it last Monday, when he saw the French fleet i. e. 5 ships drawn up before the Fort on fort Isld. that morn<sup>g</sup> & fired 15 Broadsides & silenced the Fort, then pushed out to sea after the British fleet.

15. Wind round to NE. Rain, unsettled. No news from Rh. Isld. A vessel into Salem advises of a Fleet off Newfoundl<sup>d</sup> supposed to be Adm. Biron. Conjecture, yet not altogether improbable. If the 2 Brit. & the french fleets shd be off in this NE storm, they must be all scattered. The ordering of Providence ! . . . .

16. Ldsdy. At Chapel A.M. D<sup>r</sup> Dagget preached upon Contentment. P.M. Mr. Haven<sup>1</sup> on Isai. liii, 2. Scholars very sickly, many gone home—present to-day in the chapel 55 Undergraduates only.

17. On Ldsdy 9<sup>th</sup> Inst Gen. Sullivan landed upon Rh. Isl. with Ten Thous<sup>d</sup> men without opposition. The French fleet landed 2 or 3000 french Troops on Connecticutt at the same time. But in Aft. of the same day a British fleet came too off the mouth of the Harbor; and the French Admiral reship<sup>t</sup> the Troops, and on Monday 10<sup>th</sup> with 8 or 10 Ships of the Line sailed out of the Harbor in pursuit of the Brit. fleet. In passing the Forts a severe Canonade on both sides.

18. A Line of Expresses established at every 20 miles between the two Armies, so that Intelligence passes every 48 hours from Rh. Isld. to Gen. Wash. at White plains phps 180 miles strait. This Even<sup>g</sup> the Eastern Express came in—it must bring acc<sup>t</sup> from Rh. Isld. of yesterday morn<sup>g</sup>; yet no news—Fleet not returned. G. Wash. has doubled the Riders this day; and now News is to pass from Rh. Isld. to White plains in 24 hours, or daily. An amazing expeditiousness ! On Rh. Isld. Gen. Greene commands the Right Wing, the Marquis de Fayette the Left, Gen. Hancock the second Line. We are in possession of eight miles of the Island.

19. Hon. Fra. Dana Esq. of Congress at my house on his Return to Cambridge, Told me the difference between an *Ambassador*, an *Envoy* or Minister plenipotentiary, and a *Resident*. The King of France impowered M. Girard to appear in either character as we pleased and D<sup>r</sup> Franklin shd. be rec<sup>d</sup> in the same character at the Court of Paris. The Ambassador is on Equality with the King, they both sitting on the same carpet covered—this most expensive. The Envoy is adequate to all purposes of Treaty & Negotiation—the King & he meet stand<sup>g</sup> & both uncovered. The resident is no efficacious character but charged with Affairs &c. The Congress chose the character of the Envoy. And in this Character M. Girard had his

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Haven, Jr., son of the Portsmouth pastor. He had accompanied Dr. Stiles on his journey to New Haven, and received an *ad eundem* degree at the ensuing Commencement.

formal Reception. In this Dr. Frank. & Mr. Jn<sup>o</sup> Adams will appear at Paris & foreign Courts.

Mr. Dana also informed that the Quakers in & about Philad<sup>a</sup> had lately as a Body drawn up a Remonstrance and presented it to the Assembly of Pensylvania, declaring against assisting in the War against the King, against paying Taxes for support<sup>e</sup> the War, & against paying Taxes for calling in the Continental Currency. When before the House they avowed & owned themselves liege subjects of the King. This is daring & bold, mulish obstinacy & disappointed Malice.

20. . . A heavy Thunder Shower. No certain News of the Fleets, nor from Rh. Isld. to day. At V<sup>h</sup> P.M. I held my Lecture in the Chapel. Spent the Evening at Rev. Mr. Whittelseys.<sup>1</sup> It is said that Gen. Clinton with 1000 men is foraging on L. Isld, taking the East end he sweeps off as much Grain, Stock, &c as to leave the Inhabs. a small pittance. It is said he is return<sup>e</sup> hav<sup>e</sup> taken by force 9000 head of cattle out of 12000. But I think it incredible. But he has doubtless given them an ample Taste of British Clemency.

21. Foster a Senior Soph. in Provid. Coll. left Provid. last Tues. I P.M. says advice there that morning that the French Fleet was returning with 17 prizes. . . .

22. I received the following Letter from Mr. Deane late Commissioner at the Court of Paris; he came over with M. Girard the French Plenipotentiary.

PHILAD<sup>a</sup> July 29<sup>th</sup> 1778.

"SIR, It is with the greatest pleasure I am informed that you are appointed to the honorable and important Station of presiding over the Colleges in New Haven, & I embrace this opportunity most sincerely to congratulate you, and the youth of that Seminary as well as the public in general on your Appointment. The little attention given to the modern Languages in most of the Universities & Academies as well in Europe as in America has long since been universally complained of, and unhappily the Defect has been almost as universally unremedied; as I have experienced the many difficulties & embarrassments which a man doing Business abroad labors under who is ignorant of any modern Language except his own, I can but be solicitous to have the Study of them, at least of the French, introduced into our Academies & Colleges. This Language is not only spoke in all the Courts, but daily becomes more & more universal, among people of Business as well as men of Letters in all the prin-

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Chauncey Whittelsey (Y. C. 1738), pastor of the First Church, lived on the west side of what is now State street, a little south of Whiting street.



cial Towns & Cities in Europe. The particular Advantages of it to every one transacting Business abroad whether commercial or political are too obvious to need the being pointed out, and I am confident you will consider the subject in the same point of Importance which I do, and consequently that you will be willing to introduce & encourage the study of this Language in the Colleges under your care; at the same Time I am very sensible that the moderate State of the Funds at your Disposal checks almost every Attempt of this nature which is attended with an Expence. I therefore take Liberty to propose (should it be agreeable to you and the reverend Corporation to patronize the Design, I soliciting Assistance from some of my very noble & opulent Friends in France, to establish a Professor of the French Language in your Colleges, & to make a Collection of the Writings of their most celebrated Authors for your Library. I have repeatedly mentioned the proposal in general to many of them at Paris, and have no doubt it may be carried into Execution. If it meet with your approbation, you will inform me by a Letter, and what annual sum in Sterling will be sufficient for the support of a Professor or Instructor in a reputable manner. The French Language is spoken in great purity in most of the Swiss Cantons, particularly so at Geneva, whence a Professor might be obtained, whose principles as well as manners could not fail of being agreeable. I expect in a few months to reembark for France, where I shall necessarily be detained for some time on Business; my Interest in promoting the Institution is intirely at your Service. I shall with the greatest pleasure contribute in proportion to the little I am possess'd of towards it, & I wish on this account in particular it was more considerable. I have the honor to be with the most sincere Respect & Esteem, Sir, your most obed<sup>t</sup> & very Humble Serv<sup>t</sup>.

SILAS DEANE."

On the 6<sup>th</sup> Inst. Aug. Mons. GIRARD was formally introduced by Messrs. Lee & Sam<sup>l</sup> Adams to an Audience with the Congress. The ceremony was exhibited with great Dignity & Honor. It is the first of the kind ever seen in America. He was received as Minister Plenipotentiary from the King of France.

23. Ldsdy. Dr. Dagget preached all day in Chapel.

24. French fleet certainly returned to Rh. Isld. Thursdy last.

I rode to Northford to consult M<sup>r</sup> Williams upon the Professor of French. He partly approves but wishes it had been some other Professorship. Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Trumbull and Bray the same. Mr. C—— violently against because of Popery—others doubtful.<sup>1</sup>

25. . . . I prayed & dined with the Judges of the Sup. Court. read M<sup>r</sup> Deans Letter. Gov. Griswold Chief Judge, Judge Pitkin,

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Warham Williams (Y. C. 1745) was pastor of Northford Society, in what is now North Branford. Benjamin Trumbull (Y. C. 1759) was minister of North Haven, and Thomas W. Bray (Y. C. 1765) of North Guilford. "Mr. C——" was apparently not a clergyman, and may perhaps be Joshua Chandler (Y. C. 1747), who lived in North Haven.

Judge Huntington, strong for receiv<sup>g</sup> the French Professor, think no danger of Popery. Mr. Sherman from Congress full in same opinion. Mr. Bray dined with us & satisfied. Rev. Mr. Rexford<sup>1</sup> & Rev. Mr. Edwards full in it, no Danger. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey cautious.

This Afternoon examined Nathan Williams and admitted him a Freshman for next year.

26. Mr. Joshua Lathrop<sup>2</sup> of Norwich cautious.

27. Hon. Rich<sup>d</sup> Law<sup>3</sup> visited me : he yesterday left Gov. Trumbull at Lebanon where were convened the *Assistants & Council of Safety*. He informs that they had Letters fr. G. Sullivan on Rh. Isld dated last Monday. That the French fleet returned there last Thursday (20<sup>th</sup>) when the Adm. held a Council & it was concluded to go to Boston to refit. The fleet fell down Saturday Even<sup>g</sup> & Ldsdy morn<sup>g</sup> 23<sup>rd</sup> Inst. sailed for Boston. That Gen. Sullivan sent a Remonstr<sup>a</sup> after them in w<sup>ch</sup> he charged the failure of the Expedition to the Depart. of the Fleet, & that it should be so represented to Congress, to the French Plenipot<sup>y</sup> at Philad<sup>a</sup> & to ours at Paris. That he had also laid before his Generals three Questions, viz. whether they shd storm?—or evacuate the Isld? or continue the siege by regular deliberate approaches? I give up the Rh. Isld. Expedition.

29. As Gov. Johnston one of the Kings Commissioners formerly in high Reput<sup>n</sup> with Americans has attempted to bribe & corrupt Gen. Reed one of the Congress, Congress have resolved & published a Declaration of their Resentment at this attempt to corrupt one of their Body, & that they will never transact a negotiation with him or with any Commissioners of which he is one.

Mr. Law told me that the French professor was a subject of Convers<sup>a</sup> at the Governors, present the Council of the State & Council of Safety, and approved without any Hesitancy ; and he had heard others speak of it, & none disapproved it.

30. Ldsdy. Dr. Daggett preached all day from Mat. xii, 35. Read<sup>g</sup> Lactantius ; and also *Outram de Sacrificiis*.

31. Discouragement about Rhode Island.

<sup>1</sup>Elisha Rexford (Y. C. 1763), a native of New Haven, minister of New Stratford Society in what is now Monroe, Conn.

<sup>2</sup>A highly respected Yale graduate of 1743. His brother, Daniel Lathrop (Yale 1733), was a prospective benefactor of the College.

<sup>3</sup>Judge of the New London County Court ; a graduate of Yale. 1751.

## September

1. A fleet of ships from N. York passed towards Rh. Isld. last Lords day. Rumor of an Action of some magnitude on the Island last Saturday.

2. First proof sheet of my Oration sent from Hartford. . . .

3. Attended Prof. Strong's math. Lecture yesterdy. This morn<sup>g</sup> one of Gen. Sullivans Aid de camps in T<sup>n</sup> says, our whole Army left Rh. Isld. last Sabbath. This Aft. I held my Lecture. Thus I have held it once a fourt' night.

4. Examin<sup>a</sup> of the Junior Class.

5. Great Disappointment respect<sup>g</sup> Rh. Isld. Expedition. May we submit in a becom<sup>g</sup> manner to the frowns of Gds righteous Providence. Exam. Soph.

6. Ldsdy, A.M. at Chapel Professor Daggett preached on 2 Cor. v, 14, 15, and administered the Lords Supper, ten Communicants only present.

P.M. I preached for Rev. Chauncy Whittelsey in the first Chh. in New Haven from Eph. iii, 17-19.

7. Committee of Corpor<sup>a</sup> met. Exam. Freshmen also Soph.

8. Examined & admitted nine Freshmen. And dismissed the Students for 6 Weeks Vacation. All the members of the Corporation met except Mr. Salter.

9. Anniversary Commencement at Yale College: when I conferred the academic Degrees upon 41 Bachelors and 42 Masters. I presented the Diplomas in the Chapel, it being a private Commencement. The 41 Bachelors were Alumni nostri besides one Harv. Of the 42 Masters 4 were from Harv<sup>d</sup> & Dartm<sup>n</sup> ad eundems. Mr. Benedict presented me with 30 Doll. Contin. Bill—the highest gratuity besides was 13, some ten, some 4 Dollars. I threw up my fee & referred myself to the Liberality of the Graduates for this Commencement, only this to be no precedent in future. Of the 84 I gave away a dozen degrees besides my sons: and 71 had Diplomas—about 15 absent. Gurley one of the Students which lately went home sick, died a few days since.<sup>1</sup> [Money at this time 5 Doll. for 1 nearly or say 4½ for 1. So 700 paper Doll.=150 Silver Do.=or £45. Amo<sup>t</sup> Fees.]

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Gurley, Jr., of the Sophomore Class, died in Mansfield, Conn., on August 28, in his 25th year; a funeral oration by Samuel Nott, delivered on Dec. 5, 1778, was published. He was a brother of the Rev. John Gurley (Yale 1773).



## GRATUITIES FROM THE CANDIDATES.

## Bachelors.

|                             | Doll. |                                   | Doll.        |
|-----------------------------|-------|-----------------------------------|--------------|
| Sir Webster . . . . .       | 10    | Sir Foster . . . . .              | 12           |
| Sir Storrs . . . . .        | 10    | Sir Wetmore . . . . .             | 10           |
| Sir Reed . . . . .          | 10    | Sir Spalding, Asa . . . . .       | 10           |
| Sir Pettebone . . . . .     | 10    | Sir Spalding, Josiah . . . . .    | 10           |
| Sir Dickinson . . . . .     | 10    | Sir Goodrich No Diploma . . . . . | 10           |
| Sir Noyes . . . . .         | 10    | Sir Gold . . . . .                | 12           |
| Sir Leavenworth . . . . .   | 10    | Sir Swift . . . . .               | 10           |
| Sir Dibble . . . . .        | 12    | Sir Tracy . . . . .               | 10           |
| Sir Gilbert . . . . .       | 10    | Sir Wolcott, I, . . . . .         | 11           |
| Sir Judson, David . . . . . | 10    | Sir Wolcott, Oliver . . . . .     | 10           |
| Sir Meigs . . . . .         | 10    | Sir Frisbie . . . . .             | 10           |
| Sir Chaplin . . . . .       | 9     | Sir Breed . . . . .               | 16           |
| Sir Jacob . . . . .         | 10    | Sir Bishop . . . . .              | 9            |
| Sir Barlow . . . . .        | 8     | Sir Miller . . . . .              | 10           |
| Sir Hotchkiss . . . . .     | 5     | Sir Hotchkiss, Obad. . . . .      | 10           |
| Sir Sage . . . . .          | 9     | Sir Bartholomew . . . . .         | 9            |
| Sir Ely . . . . .           | 10    | Sir Edmonds . . . . .             | 9            |
| Sir Smith . . . . .         | 10    | 35                                |              |
|                             |       |                                   | £105.6.0—351 |

67 Deg. @ 4 silver D. shd have amounted to £80 L. M. Amount my actual Receipts £45. So lost £25.

## Nothing.

|                           |                            |
|---------------------------|----------------------------|
| Sir Buell absent          | Sir Welch                  |
| Sir Daggett son professor | Sir Mix—had Diplo. but &c. |
| Sir Johnson son fellow    | Sir Stiles—my son          |
| Sir Kellogg—abs.          |                            |

7

## Masters.

|                           |    |           |                                           |               |       |
|---------------------------|----|-----------|-------------------------------------------|---------------|-------|
| Mr. Benedict . . . . .    | 30 | Doll.     | Mr. Newell . . . . .                      | 12            | Doll. |
| Mr. Judd . . . . .        | 10 |           | Mr. Prudden . . . . .                     | 12            |       |
| Mr. Talmadge . . . . .    | 12 |           | Mr. Wolcott, W <sup>m</sup> . . . . .     | 12            |       |
| Rev. Mr. Booge . . . . .  | 12 |           | Mr. Judson, David . . . . .               | 12            |       |
| Mr. Greenough . . . . .   | 12 |           | Mr. Royce . . . . .                       | 12            |       |
| Mr. Belden . . . . .      | 12 |           | Mr. Mix . . . . .                         | 12            |       |
| Mr. Bradley . . . . .     | 12 |           | Rev. Mr. Stebbins . . . . .               | 12            |       |
| Mr. Colton . . . . .      | 12 |           | Mr. Baldwin Jun. . . . .                  | 10            |       |
| Mr. Dana . . . . .        | 12 | No Diplo. | Mr. Holcomb . . . . .                     | 12            |       |
| Mr. Fenn . . . . .        | 12 |           | Mr. S. Dwight . . . . .                   | 10            |       |
| Mr. Fowler . . . . .      | 13 |           | Mr. Rogers . . . . .                      | 12            |       |
| Mr. Johnson . . . . .     | 12 | No Diplo. |                                           | —             |       |
| Mr. Judson, Adon. . . . . | 12 |           |                                           | 293           |       |
| Mr. Mitchell . . . . .    | 12 |           | Deduct 10 Doll. } . . . . .               | 10            |       |
| Mr. Mosely . . . . .      | 12 |           | for 2 abs. Masters } . . . . .            | —             |       |
|                           |    |           | to College Treas <sup>y</sup> } . . . . . | 283=£ 84.18.0 |       |

The Gratuity of these last 25 wrapt in one paper & presented by Capt. Judd in the name of the whole 25 present.

Masters.

|                  |   |   |       |             |   |   |               |       |
|------------------|---|---|-------|-------------|---|---|---------------|-------|
| Mr. Beckwith     | . | 4 | Doll. | Mr. Shelton | . | . | 8             | Doll. |
| Mr. Perry        | . | . | 12    |             |   |   | —             |       |
| Mr. Baldwin Sen. | . | 1 |       |             |   |   | 30+283+37=350 |       |
| Mr Mosely        | . | . | 12    |             |   |   | £105.         |       |

Nothing.

|                                            |                                |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Mr. Bushnell                               | Mr Kellogg not p <sup>d</sup>  |
| Mr. Hen. Dagget son professor              | Mr Ashley not p <sup>d</sup>   |
| Mr. Williams son fellow                    | Mr. Everitt not p <sup>d</sup> |
| Mr Haven                                   | Mr. Alden Q                    |
| Mr. M <sup>c</sup> Clintoc                 | Mr. Morgan not p <sup>d</sup>  |
| M <sup>r</sup> Townsend not p <sup>d</sup> |                                |

Doll.

|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |              |                 |
|-----------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|--------------|-----------------|
| Bachelors | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 351—£105.6.0 | .               |
| Masters   | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | . | 350—£105.    |                 |
|           |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |   | <u>710</u>   | <u>£210.6.0</u> |

Equal £24 Sterl<sup>s</sup> or £45 old Lawful Money.

[Congress Depreci<sup>a</sup> Scale.

New York D<sup>o</sup>

|              | Doll                         |        | Doll            |
|--------------|------------------------------|--------|-----------------|
| 1778 Sept. 2 | . . . 24.78 specie=100 Paper | Sep. 1 | —400=100 specie |
| 18.          | . . . 22.84                  |        | 15—429          |
| Oct. 6.      | . . . 20.84                  | Oct. 1 | —464            |
| Nov. 5.      | . . . 17.88                  |        | 15—500          |
|              |                              | Nov. 1 | —545]           |

10. Incessantly employed with the Corporation.

11. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> returned home. The Tutors have examined pupils offer<sup>s</sup>, & we have admitted in all twenty two Freshmen for next year. [Harv. Coll. above 30.]

12. Prepar<sup>s</sup> Copy of the general Diploma for the Press.

15. It is sd. Adm. Birons fleet arrived at N. York the 3 last days of August.

16. Mr. Haven went away. He came with us from Portsm<sup>o</sup> beginning June last. I sent £60. or 200 Doll. by him to Mrs. Burt<sup>1</sup> on Note; and I sent £70 or 234 Doll. by Mr. Greenough to Rev. Mr. Clarke of Boston for discharging Ezra's Stewds & Butlers Bills at Harvard College.

20. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached for Mr. Mather<sup>2</sup> . . . . P.M. for Mr. Edwards . . . . In the Town plot of New Haven are the following places of Public Worship.

<sup>1</sup> See note to this Diary for May 14, 1777.

<sup>2</sup> Rev. Allyn Mather (Yale 1771), minister of the Fair Haven Society, whose meeting-house was on the site of the present United Church.

|      |                            |                                 |
|------|----------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 1637 | Old Church, or Brick . . . | Rev <sup>d</sup> Mr. Whittelsey |
| 1742 | Whitehaven Church . . .    | Rev <sup>d</sup> Mr. Edwards    |
| 1752 | Chh. of England . . .      | Rev. Mr. Hubbard <sup>1</sup>   |
| 1755 | College Chapel . . .       | Rev. D <sup>r</sup> Daggett.    |
| 1770 | Fair Haven . . .           | Rev. Mr. Mather.                |

22. . . . 19th Inst. Died at Greenwich in Connect. my amiable Friend Mrs. Hannah Babcock, Wife of Hon. Joshua Babcock,<sup>2</sup> Esq., of Westerly, æt. 65.

24. Mr. Beers<sup>3</sup> æt. 60 & supra born in Stratfd. tells me that before the Death of Rev Mr. Blackman (166-) the large Chh of Stratfd sent to President Chauncy for a Candidate. He was desirous for his own son then engaged 5 or 6 m<sup>o</sup> at Eastw<sup>d</sup>—in meantime sent a young Candidate Mr. Walker, who conciliated the Esteem of &c. Mr. Chauncy com<sup>e</sup> afterwds, it was found there were 80 Votes for Mr. Chauncy & 75 for Mr. Walker. Total 150 Brethren of the Chh. They would neither recede and it was determined to settle both. They were ordained—but never agreed.<sup>4</sup> The public controversy then agitated thro' the country between Presb. & Congregationals, affected this Chh. Mr. Chauncy and party became called Presbyterians, Mr. Walker &c. Cong<sup>r</sup>. After 12 or 15 y. Animosities, Mr. Walker & party sought the new settlement & removed to Woodbury, & sold out their possessions in Stratfd. Among others that came into their places were some Episcopalians from N. York then lately conquered by the English. These begun the Chh of Eng. in N. Engld. This anecdote shews there were Chhmen there distinguishing themselves as such in Sir Edmund Andross's Time, viz. they were highly elated with his com<sup>e</sup> dressed themselves in red coats & went out to meet him & escorted him into Stratfd to a principal Chhmans house—it is the Tradition there were about a *dozen Chh Red Coats* on this occasion, w<sup>c</sup> must have been 1686 or 1687. These had occasional Chh service in Stratfd, & once had a chaplain of a Man o' war from N. York. It may be

<sup>1</sup> Bela Hubbard (Yale 1758): the Episcopal church was on the east side of Church street, a little south of Chapel street.

<sup>2</sup> He was graduated at Yale in 1724. See this Diary, April 15, 1783.

<sup>3</sup> Nathan Beers; see this Diary, July 5, 1779.

<sup>4</sup> This account is largely traditional and inaccurate. Dr. Stiles has at some later date added to this passage the following note: Mr. Chauncy was ordained before Mr. Blackman's death. A Separation took place, & a second Chh. afterwards got Mr. Walker ordained.



supposed they gained some of the discontented originals. One of their number gave a house & Lot. They sometimes held chh. in this house. The Governors & Councillors of N. York when com<sup>e</sup> into N. Engld. on Negotiations sometimes bro't Chaplains & they stopt & kept Sabb. at Stratf<sup>d</sup>. So the little discontented handful was nursed up, till D<sup>r</sup> Johnson took them up in 1722, when they were phaps. 20 or 30 [40] families. From that time they have been a fixt Congregation, & may be now 120 families. It has been said that the first Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh. was founded in Boston by Sir Edm<sup>d</sup> Andross 1687; but the Chh at Stratf<sup>d</sup> contend that they are the oldest.<sup>1</sup> Which seems to be true; if occasional preaching to a dozen families may be considered as founding a Church. Unhappy & lasting effects of Chh. Controversies!

26. I sent off to the Printer at Hartf<sup>d</sup> the last sheet of the Copy of my Oration. Rode to Meriden.

27. Ldsdy. I preached at Meriden upon Cant. ii, 2, 3, 4. Brother & Sister Hubbard advise me &c.

28. Dined at D<sup>r</sup> Dana's. Rode in comp<sup>a</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> Bullard and Sir Avery<sup>2</sup> to N. Haven. M<sup>r</sup> Bullard<sup>3</sup> tells me that pple are very much discouraged at Providence with the protraction of the War, he has been preaching there this half year. Sir Avery of Norwich tells me that Murray is preaching universal Salvation there, that a considerable number are become his open Disciples & among others the Chh Minister M<sup>r</sup> Tyler<sup>4</sup> who says he will now open Chh & preach this Doctrine.

29. The Association of this County (which comprehends 24 Ministers besides 6 ministers not members) met here at Rev. Mr. Mathers: There were about 20 Ministers present of w<sup>o</sup> 5 of us were not members. Mr. Storrs of Northbury preached the Lecture at IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. from Jer. xvii, 9. The Wallingf<sup>d</sup> Controversy<sup>5</sup> so interrupted the ministerial Communion that none of the New Haven Ministers have associated for years, till two of them joyned last Spring. This is the first Assoc. held in town for above twenty Years.

<sup>1</sup> The Episcopal Church in Stratford was organized in 1707. See Beardsley's *Hist. of the Episcopal Church in Conn.*, I, 23.

<sup>2</sup> John Avery (Y. C. 1777), now a resident graduate at New Haven.

<sup>3</sup> John Bullard (Harvard Coll. 1776).

<sup>4</sup> John Tyler (Y. C. 1765), who bore after this the reputation of being substantially a Universalist.

<sup>5</sup> See this Diary, Jan. I, 1772.

30. . . . . I laid the Lett. about the French Professor before the Assoc. All but one were for it, & only 3 but desired more might be done than yet done by Corpor<sup>a</sup> to encourage it.<sup>1</sup> I set out for Cornwall.

# October

4. Kept Sabb. at Cornwall & preached for the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Gold . . .

5. Viewed my farm in Cornwall, 150 acres, about 42 acres cleared, Orchard 60 Trees æt. 15. Cut 12 Tons hay this Summer, may cut 20. Offered Rent £15 old way, viz. Wheat 4  $\frac{1}{2}$  Bush. Beef 18/  $\frac{1}{2}$  Cwt.

6. Return<sup>e</sup> visited D<sup>r</sup> Bellamy; Lodged at Rev. Mr. Trumbulls at Westbury.

7. Lodged at Mr. Darlings;<sup>2</sup> & offered a Horse æt. 5, for £15. old way or 6 for 1 = 280 Dollars paper.

8. Returned to N. Haven. Gen. Assembly began sitting. Expences Travell<sup>e</sup> to Cornwall & Meriden 71 Miles at  $1\frac{1}{3}$  p<sup>d</sup> 15 Doll. Expences besides 5 or 6 Dollars. It is said four new Commissioners arrived.

9. In the Even<sup>e</sup> I waited upon his Excellency Gov. Trumbull. Mr. Temple<sup>3</sup> late from London conversed with L<sup>d</sup> Chatham (Mr. Pitt) before & after his Shock in Parliament, who told him (Temple) that Great Britain must ackn<sup>o</sup> the Independ<sup>e</sup> of the United States, Parl<sup>t</sup> renounce the whole Gov<sup>t</sup> of them, acknowledge the American Flag, leave the Legislation, Commerce & Gov. of Amer. to themselves, allow the Floridas, Nova Scotia & Canada to accede to the Union of the States, share the Fishery with Britain, New Foundland to remain to G. Britain:—But—that America should own Allegiance to the King of G. Britain, & he shd rule them separate from & independ<sup>t</sup> of the Brit. Parliament, and particularly the King should hold the rights and Powers of War & Peace in America as well as in Britain.

10. Col. Joseph Belcher of Newport one of my Congregation, died Sept 27<sup>th</sup> ult. at Brooklin near Boston. I rode over to Milford.

<sup>1</sup> At their recent meeting the Corporation had sanctioned a reply to Mr. Deane, which evaded a direct refusal, but gave scant encouragement and postponed a final decision. In fact, nothing more was done.

<sup>2</sup> Thomas Darling (Y. C. 1740), in what is now Woodbridge.

<sup>3</sup> John Temple, formerly Surveyor-General of Customs in America, and subsequently British Consul-General in the U. S. He was the grandfather of the late Hon. Robert C. Winthrop.

11. Ldsdy. I preached for Rev. Mr. Sherman<sup>1</sup> . . . . Elder Daniel Buckingham of Milford died about 1711 or 1712:<sup>2</sup> He was born on board ship after the Embark<sup>a</sup> for America, & was carried ashore (phps Plymouth) in England & baptized & so came over to N. Eng<sup>ld</sup> an Infant.

12. Returned to N. Haven. Gov. Tryon has sent a Packet from N. York to our Gen. Assembly now sitting here. It contains a Proclam<sup>a</sup> of the Commiss<sup>rs</sup> import<sup>e</sup> that they have no powers to ackn<sup>o</sup> our Independ<sup>y</sup>. that they offer Pardon to all that accept before Nov., otherwise Ravage & Destruction.

13. Rode to North Haven.

14. To Middletown.

15. Three Ladies divided to my five Daughters a Trunk of my Wife's Aparrel, among the rest four silk Gowns &c. . . . .

16. Yesterday the G. Assembly adjourned to Hartford fearing a Descent of the enemy at N. Haven. This day returned—had my Things brot home from Middletown . . . . .

18. Ldsdy. I preached at Darby for Rev. Mr. Humphry A.M. Heb. vii, 19. P.M. Cant. ii, 2-4.

19. Returned to New Haven. The Assembly has ordered to the Sea Coast a Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> of monthmen from the Militia. . . . .

20. The College Vacation ends this day—the Scholars begin to come in. This Even<sup>g</sup> I set up Orders.

21. Examined & admitted Jn<sup>o</sup> Robinson into the Jun. Class. He had read through Virgil, Tully, Horace, Cæs. Commentaries, Greek Testa. & half the LXX; Salmon's Geography, Watts' Logic; studied Arith. decimal & the Roots, Algebra, Geometry, Survey<sup>e</sup>, Trigonom<sup>y</sup> applied to Heights, Dist<sup>a</sup> & Sailing. . . . .

22. We exam'd & admitted Gov. Bowens son.<sup>3</sup>

23. We exam'd & admitted Root into the Freshman Class. About 80 Undergrad. present. [Exam<sup>d</sup> & adm<sup>d</sup> Potter into Jun. Class from Dart. Coll.]

25. Ldsdy. Dr. Daggett preached in the Chapel all day from Jn<sup>o</sup>. xv, 22. About 70 Undergraduates & 6 or 7 Grad. present. One Division of our Army is at Farmington march<sup>e</sup> eastward. It is said the En<sup>y</sup> have left Jersies.

<sup>1</sup> Josiah Sherman (Princeton 1754), a brother of the Hon. Roger Sherman, and pastor of the 2d Church in Milford.

<sup>2</sup> Died May 2, 1712, aged 75 years.

<sup>3</sup> Obadiah Bowen, the eldest child of Gov. Jabez Bowen, of Providence.



26. The French Ambassador arrived at Phila. 13<sup>th</sup> of July last. "On the morn<sup>g</sup> after his Arrival being the thirteenth of the month, an Aloe Tree the only one in this State, immediately shot forth its Spire, which it never does but once in its Existence, & in some other Climates is not less than one hundred years. It had been planted about forty five years in the Neighborhood of this City, & heretofore every year had produced four Leaves, but early this Spring it spread forth thirteen. The Spire is remark<sup>a</sup> being thirteen Inches round, & hav<sup>g</sup> grown thirteen feet in the first thirteen days. The Scotch talk much of their Thistle & the S<sup>o</sup> Britons of the Glassenbury Thorn, much finer Things may be said of the Aloe Tree of America & the fleur de Lis of France."

Rem. 1. This was pub. in an Aug<sup>t</sup> Philad. print. 2. Tho' there be no magic in 13 yet it may hereafter be noted in Nat. Hist. that there was an Aloe plant in the Penn. Proprietary Gardens at Philad<sup>a</sup> so early as Amer. Indepen<sup>y</sup>. 3. Subsequent Accounts inform of the growth of this Spire and its flowering atop. it is said again on 13 petals. I have for several years been acquainted with several Aloe plants in Mr. Redwoods Gardens on Rh. Isld., & wrote my name upon one of the Leaves several years ago; but little thought the Plant was of such a Longævity.

27. Last Even<sup>g</sup> I spent with Major Alden<sup>1</sup> from Head Qu<sup>rs</sup>. He says the Division marched Eastw<sup>d</sup> & now at Hartford & its vicinity, consists of six Brigades; that Detachments of Brigades are also marching westward, have crossed N<sup>o</sup> River, are going to garrison some fort Pitt, others ft. Stanwix & other Wilderness Frontier Outposts. Two Ends answer<sup>g</sup>. 1. Readiness to assist the Sea Coast or Boston, in case the Enemy Corps of ten Reg<sup>ts</sup> lately sailed fr. N. York (about 20 Inst) attempt N. Engl'd. 2. Dispersing the Army, & in case the War is over, stilly & silently disbanding them. The Army have determined collectively upon some strong and resolute measures to redress themselves; which might be a dangerous precedent.

The Senior Class disputed syllogistically yesterday in the Chapel—An Bellum est licitum: & today Are there any Innate Ideas.

28. Gen. Whipple Member from N. Hampshire visited me in his Journey to Congress.

29. I delivered in the Chapel a Lecture on Ecc. History.

<sup>1</sup> Roger Alden (Yale 1773).

30. Sir Stiles, my Son, began to study Law with Mr. Chauncy in New Haven.<sup>1</sup>

31. One hundred Undergraduates in Town; of which Ninety in Commons. Total in Commons, 93.

# November

1. Ldsdy. A.M. Professor Daggett preached Mat. xxvii, 46, and adm. the Communion to ten. P.M. Mr. Buckminster preached on Rom. iii, 31, present about 90 Undergraduates.

2. Seniors disputed, Promissum vi extortum non est observandum.

3. Seniors disputed, Are there more Gds. than one?

4. Attended Professor Strongs Phil. Lecture.

5. I went to Funeral of Rev. Mr. Williston's Wife<sup>2</sup> at West Haven æt. 35. Corps carried into the Meetinghouse, where I made first prayer, Mr. Whittelsey preached, D<sup>r</sup> Dagget prayed—Mr. Edwards spake at the Grave. . . . .

8. Ldsdy. I preached at West Haven for Rev. Mr. Williston, A.M. Rom. iii, 24, 25. P.M. 2 Cor. iv, 18.

9. Gen. Assembly at Hartford broke up. Mass. Assembly still sitting. . . . .

10. Seniors disputed forensically on Innate Ideas. . . . . This Even<sup>g</sup> I made a Discourse in the Chapel upon the system of academic Education. In Commons 102.

11. This day end the 40 days of Grace given by the Kings Commissioners; after w<sup>c</sup> Nineveh is to be destroyed. It is said the Enemy have embarkt sixteen Reg<sup>ts</sup> 10 Brit. 6 Tories—& sailed from N. York about 20<sup>th</sup> last month. Doubtful.

12. My Lecture on Eccl. History. I gave Acc<sup>o</sup> of the capital characters active in setting up the Chh in the first ages. Laid open before me Jerome de Viris illustribus or de Autoribus ecclesiasticis, and expounded from thence.

13. Five or 6 Brigades or about 3000 Continental Troops Iye encamp't at Hartford. The main Army yet at Fishkill across to Danb<sup>y</sup> & Newtown. I do not learn the State of the Enemy. The Total of Undergraduates in Yale College is *One hundred & twenty*

<sup>1</sup> Ezra Stiles, Jr., had taken his B.A. degree at Harvard this year, and an *ad eundem* degree at Yale. His preceptor, afterward Judge Charles Chauncey, was a leader of the New Haven Bar, born 1747, died 1823.

<sup>2</sup> Hannah Pomeroy, the second wife of the Rev. Noah Williston (Y. C. 1757).

*four* of which 116 are present & only 8 absent. Now in Commons one hundred, of which 97 are Undergraduates some being in Commons who live in neighboring houses.

|              |   |   |          |          |    |                                               |
|--------------|---|---|----------|----------|----|-----------------------------------------------|
| Senior Class | . | . | 31       | of which | 27 | } in Town<br>of w <sup>e</sup> 97 in Commons. |
| Junior       | . | . | 34       | .        | 33 |                                               |
| Soph.        | . | . | 27       | .        | 25 |                                               |
| Freshmen     | . | . | 32       | .        | 31 |                                               |
|              |   |   | Tot. 124 |          |    | 116 present                                   |

The new College is 100 feet long & 40 f. wide containing 32 Rooms; three assigned to each Room; the whole 96 of which only 6 absent—so now actually inhabiting in those Walls 3 Tutors 2 Graduates 85 Undergraduates. Besides these, 3 Rooms in Old College Ruins contain 8 more. So 93 Undergrad. at this time in both houses.<sup>1</sup>

14. I appointed for Quarter Day Townsend, latin Orator, Whitt<sup>y</sup> 1, Eng. Orator; Austin, Ely, Wells 1 & 2, Dialogues. . . .

15. Ldsdy. Dr. Daggett preached in the Chapel all day from 1 Cor. x, 31. Reading St. Bernard.

16. Seniors disputed—Omne quod evenit est optimum.

17. Seniors disputed, Whether the mind always thinks?

18. Attended Professor Strong's Phil. Lecture.

19. I held my Lect. on Eccl. History.

20. Last week I began an occasional Even<sup>g</sup> Lect. on the Cyclopædia of Literature. This Evening I discoursed to the Scholars upon *Composition* in the Eng. Language, *Rhet.*, *Logic*, & *Geography*.

21. On the 31<sup>st</sup> Oct. the Somerset Man o' War of 64 G. British was in a NE storm cast away on C. Cod or an adjacent Bank, about 30 Men perished in attempt<sup>e</sup> the shore 2 m. off, the rest about four hundred fell into our hands. About 3<sup>d</sup> Nov. Count D'Estaing and the French fleet sailed from Boston. The Somerset was a part of Adm. Byron's fleet com<sup>d</sup> to block up the French fleet at Boston. The Acc<sup>os</sup> seem to be, that large Embark<sup>a</sup> of Brit. 100 or 150 sail & more, with *Eight Thousd.* Brit. Troops have actually sailed from N York within this month. But I am very doubtful of it. Yet I find no one doubts their sail<sup>g</sup> but myself, as I cannot think the En<sup>y</sup> are evacuating N. York this Winter.

<sup>1</sup> "The new College," later known as South Middle College, was built in 1750-52. The old College, built in 1717-18 (on the site of Osborn Hall), had been partly demolished in the winter of 1775-76; but the south end, containing the dining hall, with the kitchen attached, was still in use.



22. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at Mr. Whittelseys Meet<sup>s</sup> Ps. 97, 1, 2, He being sick. P.M. Dr. Dagget in Chapel preached 1 Cor. x, 31.

23. It is said the last Division of Troops sailed from N. York about 13<sup>th</sup> Inst. leaving a Garison of five Thousd. G. Wash. has called the Troops westward and the Brigades are returning to him at Fishkill from Hartford, &c. Seniors Syllogistic Dispute, *Omne peccatum supplicio æterno non est punendum.*

24. Forensic Dispute—Whether Virtue would be eligible, if there were no future Rewards? Mr. Marchant from Congress visited me this Afternoon. It seems as if Byron's fleet had suffered by the Storm & by the French fleet. Of four ships returned to the Hook two are dismasted & the others damaged in Rigging: another ship got into Rh. Isld. dismasted, one sunk on Nantucket shoals, & two more foundered & are floating. Providence!

In the blind manœuvres of the Enemy there seem to have been 3 Embark<sup>a</sup> or sailing in 3 Divisions—one for W. Ind. and two for Europe—one of these sailed from the Hook about the time the French sailed from Boston, & probably they fell in together.

Mr. Lee, Commissioner for Spain, has communicated to Congress that Mr. Deane was acting on selfish plans in Connexion with Dr Franklin. There is a Disgust among the Commissioners. Frank. & Deane signed the Treaty without letting Lee know it fear<sup>d</sup> Lee's Shelburn Connex. would discover it to London. And yet the Court of London knew it was to be signed 3 days before it was done. Dr Fs adopted Gr. son a youth is his Secry, & his nephew W<sup>ms</sup> principal under Deane.

LIST OF CANDIDATES FOR THE MIN<sup>y</sup> OR PREACHERS IN THE CATALOGUE OF  
YALE COLLEGE, NOV. 24, 1778.

Graduated

|       |                     |             |                                      |
|-------|---------------------|-------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1766  | Mr. Caleb Hotchkiss | . . .       | of New Haven                         |
| 1768  | Mr. Bird            | . . . . .   | Studying Physic.                     |
|       | Mr. Olcott          | . . . . .   |                                      |
| 1769. | Mr. Dwight          | . . . . .   | Tutor olim                           |
|       | Mr. Plum.           |             |                                      |
| 1770. | Mr. Buckminster     | . . . . .   | Tutor olim, Call Portsm <sup>o</sup> |
|       | Mr. Lewis           | . . . . .   | Tutor olim—Worthington.              |
|       | Mr. Mansfield       | . . . . .   | Call at Killingworth                 |
| 1771. | Mr. Barker          | . . . . .   | Branford                             |
| 1772. | Mr. Tutor Baldwin.  |             |                                      |
|       | Mr. Billings        | } . . . . . | done                                 |
|       | Mr. Larned          | { . . . . . | Studying Law                         |

|       |                                 |                       |
|-------|---------------------------------|-----------------------|
|       | Mr. Reed . . . . .              | Middleboro'           |
| 1773  | Mr. Atkins . . . . .            | D <sup>o</sup>        |
|       | Mr. Camp . . . . .              | Norfolk               |
|       | Mr. Hale . . . . .              | Coventry              |
|       | Mr. Hayes . . . . .             | Symsb <sup>y</sup> .  |
|       | Mr. Lyman . . . . .             | Coventry              |
|       | Mr. Parsons . . . . .           | Durham                |
|       | Mr. Tutor Robinson.             |                       |
| 1774. | Mr. Tutor Atwater.              |                       |
|       | Mr. Gaylord . . . . .           | Windsor               |
|       | Mr. Greenough . . . . .         | Boston                |
|       | Mr. Holcomb . . . . .           | Symsbury              |
|       | Mr. Lockwood . . . . .          | Weathersfld.          |
|       | Mr. Murdock . . . . .           | Saybrook              |
|       | Mr. Swift } . . . . .           | N. W.                 |
|       | Mr. Tullar }                    |                       |
| 1775. | Mr. Briggs . . . . .            | Middleboro'           |
|       | Mr. Colton . . . . .            | Springfld.            |
|       | Mr. Everitt . . . . .           | Norfolk               |
|       | Mr. Fenn . . . . .              | Milfd                 |
|       | Mr. Fowler . . . . .            | Lebanon               |
|       | Mr. Johnson . . . . .           | Middleton             |
|       | Mr. Judson . . . . .            | Woodbury              |
|       | Mr. Mills . . . . .             | Kent                  |
|       | Mr. Perry . . . . .             | Ripton                |
|       | Mr. Prudden . . . . .           | Milfd.                |
|       | Mr. Reed . . . . .              | Middleboro            |
|       | Mr. Scribner . . . . .          | Norwalk               |
| 1776— | Sir Hide . . . . .              | Norwich               |
|       | Sir Lyman . . . . .             | Lebanon               |
|       | Sir Upson . . . . .             | Waterb <sup>y</sup>   |
| 1777  | Sir Alex <sup>r</sup> . . . . . | Northfld.             |
|       | Sir Andruss . . . . .           | Farmington            |
|       | Sir Avery . . . . .             | Norwich, now at Coll. |
|       | Sir Camp . . . . .              |                       |
|       | Sir Cook . . . . .              | Waterb <sup>y</sup>   |
|       | Sir Reed . . . . .              | Middleboro'           |
|       | Sir Tullar . . . . .            | Sheffield             |
| 1778. | Sir Foster . . . . .            | Reading 51            |

26. This pub. Anniv<sup>y</sup> Thanks<sup>g</sup> thro' Connect. & Massach. Mr Whitt<sup>y</sup> being sick, I preached for him on Gen. xlix, 22-26. The Professor preached in the Chapel. Such Importunity of the Scholars to go home to Thanksgiv<sup>g</sup> that I gave leave to 31 near one Third of the Students in Town. Yesterday a Fleet of 27 Sail passed this harbor going westward, 3 ships & rest sloops.

27. About 10th Inst<sup>t</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Kneeland was elected Steward of Harv. College. As he has been all along a Tory it gives great Umbrage.<sup>1</sup>

29. Ldsdy. Professor Dagget preached in Chapel all day, Heb. i, 1.

# December

1. . . . . In Comons 103. This Aft. I attended a Chemical Lecture at the Statehouse given by D<sup>r</sup> Prime,<sup>2</sup> a Physician in Town. Ingenious!

2. Reading Conringius de Antiq. Acad. Attended Professor Strongs Phil. Lect. in the Chapel.

3. I exhibited my Ecc. Lecture. Professor Strong at my Desire asked Rev. Mr. Beach<sup>3</sup> who graduated 1721, & Mr. Beach says that there was no Ceremony of Investiture in office, no public Instalment of Rector Cutler:—that Mr. And<sup>w</sup> certainly moderated at the Commencem<sup>ts</sup> of 1717 and 1724, Mr. Cutler 1719 to 1722.

The first Commencements were private. Rector Pierson moderated and gave Degrees till his Death. Afterwards Mr. Andrew usually moderated till Rector Cutler's day, & afterwards till Mr. W<sup>ms</sup> day except the Commencem<sup>t</sup> I think of 1723. Then Rector W<sup>ms</sup> Presid<sup>t</sup> Clap & D<sup>r</sup>. Dagget. Some few of the late years, no Commencements pub. or private, but Degrees conferred by Diplomas only. Nearly thus.—

A.D. 1702 to 1706 inclusive, *Rector Pierson*, at Sayb<sup>k</sup> & Killingw.  
1717 first Commenc<sup>t</sup> at N. H. Rev. Mr. Andrew, certainly.

1718 ———— Rev. Mr. Andrew

1719 to 1722 incl. *Rector Cutler*

1723 Rev. Tim<sup>o</sup> Woodbridge

1724, 1725, 1726. Mr. Andrew certainly.

1727 to 1739 incl. *Rector Williams*

1740 to 1766 incl. *President Clap*. Commenc<sup>t</sup> 1746 called private, altho' in the Meetinghouse. Degrees given at Examin<sup>a</sup> July 21, 1761, and July 21, 1762. and July 31, 1763. All the rest pub. in September.

<sup>1</sup> This appointment was revoked at once.

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Y. Prime, B.A. Princeton 1751, M.A. Yale 1769, M.D. Leyden 1764, a son of the Rev. Ebenezer Prime (Y. C. 1718), of Huntington. L. I. He was practicing his profession in New York City at the outbreak of the Revolution, and then took refuge in New Haven. See also this Diary, March 20, 1779.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. John Beach, of Newtown, Conn., now in his 79th year. Professor Strong appears to have resided in Newtown, only coming to New Haven for his lectures.



1767 to 1774 incl. Professor Daggett. Degrees at Examin<sup>a</sup> July 25, 1775, July 24, 1776, private.

1777. Sept. 10. No Commenc<sup>t</sup> Exercises. Corpor<sup>a</sup> gave Degrees by Diplomas, Mr. Dickinson presiding Fellow.

1778. Sept. 9. No Commenc<sup>t</sup> Exercises. I presented Degrees in Diplomas delivering them to each of the Candidates assembled in the Chapel: above Eighty Degrees.

4. A Reg<sup>t</sup> of Amer. Lighthouse came to Town in their way to Winter Qu<sup>rs</sup> at Durham. Major Talmadge tells me he judges the Enemy this fall had but 15 Th. and that since their Embarkations they have now left but eight Thousd. He had seen a Return List out of N. York.

5. Mild Weather. Read<sup>g</sup> St. Bernard.

6. Ldsdy. A. M. I preached for Mr. Whittelsey Cant. ii, 2. He administered the Sacram<sup>t</sup> to phps. 120 Communicants. The Professor had the Communion in chapel. P. M. He preached on Gen. v, 24.

7. . . . . Report of a Corps of the En<sup>y</sup> up N<sup>o</sup> River, landed at Tarry Town on Tapan bay last Saturday Night. Mr. Ingersoll jun. arrived here 5<sup>th</sup> Inst. from Paris. He left France the 28<sup>th</sup> Sept. ult.<sup>1</sup>

9. Quarter Day. After Dinner the Exhibitions of the Senior Class in the Chapel before an Assembly of Ladies & Gentlemen—first a Latin Oration by Townsend; then a Dramatic Dialogue composed by        & spoken by four; then an Anthem;—a second Dial. composed by Wells & spoken by six; an English Oration by Whittelsey: closed by an Anthem.

10. My Birthday. This day I am fifty-one years old . . . . .

13. Ldsdy. In Chapel Dr. Dagget preached all day on 1 Tim. iv.

14. Seniors disputed—An Bestiæ ratiocinantur? Annual Town Meeting at New Haven.

From the Lond. prints we have Sir Henry Clinton's Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Battle at Monmouth Courthouse the 28<sup>th</sup> June last in his Lett. to Sec<sup>y</sup> State July 5. He says the Kings Army evacuated Philad<sup>a</sup> June 18, were at Croswicks 23<sup>d</sup>, at Courthouse 28<sup>th</sup>, at Middlet<sup>o</sup> 29<sup>th</sup>.—The first Division commanded by G. Knyphausen consisted of

<sup>1</sup>This was Jared Ingersoll, Jr. (Y. C. 1766), who had gone to England to finish his legal education in 1774. His father (Y. C. 1742) had been obliged by the Revolution to give up his Judgeship in Philadelphia, and had returned to New Haven, his earlier home.

|                                                       |                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| 17 <sup>th</sup> Regt. Light Dragoons                 | } with the Baggage |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> Batt. light Infant <sup>y</sup> Hess. |                    |
| 1 & 2 <sup>d</sup> Brig <sup>a</sup> Brit.            |                    |
| Sterns & Loos Brig. Hess.                             |                    |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup> Loyalists                        |                    |
| W. Jersey Volunteers                                  |                    |
| Mary <sup>1d</sup> Loyalists                          |                    |

The second Div. commanded by G. Clinton

16<sup>th</sup> Light Dragoons

1<sup>st</sup> Batt. Brit. Grenad.

2<sup>d</sup> do

1 Batt. Light Inf<sup>y</sup>, Hess., Grenadiers, Guards.

3, 4, 5<sup>th</sup> Brigades British

"I made a Disposition of attack on the plain, but before I could advance, the *En<sup>y</sup>* fell back, & took a strong position on the Heights above Freehold Courthouse. The heat of the weather was intense —. But our circumstances *obliged us to make a vigorous exertion*. The Brit. Gren<sup>a</sup> with their left to the Village of Freehold & the Guards on the right of the Grenadiers, began the attack with such spirit that the *En<sup>y</sup>* gave way immediately. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Line of the *En<sup>y</sup>* stood the attack with greater Obstinacy, but *were likewise completely routed*. They then took a third position, with a marshy Hollow in Front, over w<sup>o</sup> it would have been scarcely possible to have attacked them. However part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Line made a Movement to the front, occupied some Ground on the Enemy's left flank, & the Light Infantry & Queens Rangers *turned their Left*.

By this time our men were so overpowered with fatigue that I could press the affair no further, esp<sup>y</sup> as I was confident the end was gained for w<sup>o</sup> the attack had been made.—I took the position whence the *En<sup>y</sup>* had been first driven after they had quitted the plain, and after having reposed the Troops till Ten at night, to avoid the excess. heat in the day, I took the Advant<sup>a</sup> of the Moon Light to rejoyn L<sup>t</sup> G. Knyph. who had advanced to Nut Swamp near Middletown."

G. Wash. was up "with his whole Army estimated at about 20,000."

"The Troops—had forced a Corps as I am informed of near Twelve Thousd men fr. two strong positions."

Return &c. "in an Engag<sup>t</sup> with the Rebel Army on the heights of Freehold, C<sup>o</sup> Monmouth, New Jersey, the 28<sup>th</sup> of June 1778.

General Total killed wounded & missing—358

of which, British—64 killed

48 died with fatigue

159 wounded

64 missing

---

335

Germans 1

11

11

---

23

335

---

358

Rem. 1. The Action slighted over so as to seem as if no Battle ; yet 123 died on the field that day. 2. Delusion in representing so many dying of fatigue. 3. Enemy assume the Victory over Washington. 4. Seem to represent that the Brit. kept, whereas they left the field.

15. Seniors dispute, Whether the Scriptures of div. Inspiration?

16. Attended Prof. Strong's Phil. Lect.

17. I gave ecclesiastical Lecture.

18. Mr. Mansfield requests me to preach his Ordin<sup>a</sup> Sermon in case Mr. Whittelsey fails.

19. Hon. Dep. Gov. Griswold Chief Judge of the Superior Court in this State visited me. The Senior Class recite *Locke* at XI<sup>h</sup> A.M. Wedys, Thursdys, fridays, and Vincents Catechism Saturdays, & dispute Mon. & Tuesdays. Lately died the aged & venerable Man of God the Rev. Othniel Campbell of Tiverton æt. 80 circa, the Father of our Rhode Island Association.

20. Ldsdy. The Professor of Divinity preached in the Chapel all day on Mat. vii, 14. Reading St. Bernard all last Eveng. & to-day. In July 1776 immed<sup>y</sup> upon the Declar<sup>a</sup> of Independ<sup>y</sup> the Episcopal Clergy left in N. England met and decreed to shut up the Chhs., that is to cease the *Liturgy* & *preaching*; & only occasionally on Ldsdy at Chh or elsewhere the Minister was to read some printed Sermon & the Lords prayer, because they might not pray for the King, & they could not pray for Congress. Mr. Beach & Mr. Newton<sup>1</sup> however, used the *Liturgy* & kept up public preaching & service, pray<sup>d</sup> also for the King. All the rest ceased. Corresponding with them all the few Clergy of Mass. & Providence ceased service, except Mr. Parker of Boston. In general all the Chhs from Maryld to Nova Scotia have been shut up, while those of the Southern States have been kept open, part<sup>y</sup> in Virginia,

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. John Beach (Y. C. 1721), of Newtown, Conn., and the Rev. Christopher Newton (Y. C. 1740), of Ripton in what is now Huntington, Conn.



whose Assembly expunged from the Liturgy prayers for the king & substituted and appointed a form or Collect for pub. Authority.

This fall the Bp. of London has sent over to all the Clergy to open their Chhs. set up divine service & use the Liturgy as usual, omitting however the prayers for the King & royal family. This day Mr. Hubbard opened for the first time his Chh. in New Haven.

22. Snow storm last night; Snow 3 Inches. This is the first of notice this Winter. The Seniors disputed forensically, Whether the same body shall rise in the Resurrection &c?

23. Mrs. Atwater the Steward's Wife died æt. 44.<sup>1</sup>

24. Mr. Deane is disgusted and has begun a publication in the Prints to ruin the Family of the Lees. Mr. Dean was first sent to France by Congress as "*Commercial and Political Agent of America in Europe*," afterwards joyned with Dr. Franklin and Mr. Arthur Lee as *Commissioner*, a Character nearly equivalent to Ambassador. . . . Yesterday I did not attend Professor Strong's Lecture. This day I exhibited my Ecc. Lect. in course. Report that Mr. Laurens has resigned the Presidency of Congress. In the Eveng I received a Letter missive from the first Chh. in Killingworth signed by the Chh. Committee asking me to assist in the Ordination of Mr. Achilles Mansfield their Pastor Elect upon 6<sup>th</sup> Jany inst. Excessive cold; Fahr. Therm<sup>o</sup> was yest<sup>r</sup> morn<sup>g</sup> at one above cypher; this morning at 2 above cypher, rose at XI A.M. to 13 and by noon fell to 9 and at IV to 6.

25. This day the Nativity of our blessed Savior is celebrated through a great part of Christendom. Without Superstition for the day I desire to unite with all Christians in celebrat<sup>e</sup> the Incarnation of the divine Emanuel. Service at Chh in this Town.

This morning the Therm<sup>o</sup> three degrees below Cypher.

26. A most severe Snow Storm—wind high NE.

27. Ldsdy. Excessive cold. D<sup>r</sup> Dagget preached all day in Chapel, 1 Thess. i, 5, and notified the Communion. A very severe cold day, Wind high, Snow blowed a Hurricane all day. The meetings short. Reading the Confession of Faith of the American Chh. . . . .

28. Seniors disputed syllogistically, An Diluvium Noachi fuit universale? The Steward being unable to uphold Commons in the Hall, I found it necessary, and accordingly with the Advice of the Tutors

<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah Atwater, Steward of Yale College 1778-98, married Anna, daughter of Nathaniel Mix of New Haven.

I dismissed College, & the Students this Afternoon begun to return home. The Winter Vacation regularly begins the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursdy next month to continue for three Weeks. I have dismissed the Students till the End of the Vacation.

29. Mr. Sherman is returned from Congress. President Laurens has resigned, and Mr. Jay is chosen President of Congress. Congress have taken up Mr. Deane's Affair.

30. Continental Thanksgiving. I preached for Rev. Mr. Edwards on Gen. xlix, 22-26. . . . .

31. I rode to North Haven to visit my aged Mother.

1779.

January

1. At North Haven taking care of my aged Mother.

3. Ldsdy. At New Haven. A.M. I attended at Mr. Edwards's & partook at the Sacrament with his Chh. first time. P.M. I preached for Mr. Mather, Tit. iii, 11-14. Reading Schroderus about the four Patriarchates of the Haican or Armenian Chh.

4. Set out with Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey for Ordination at Killingworth. Lodged at M<sup>r</sup> Todds E. Guilford. I had before received a Letter missive from that Church: altho' I suppose it is the first time that a President of a College as President was sent to to assist in Ordination officially. Indeed President Chauncy assisted once in an Ord. at Dorchester & gave the Charge, but I conclude as Delegate from Chh. of Cambridge with Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Oakes Pastor of Cambridge. Presid<sup>t</sup> Langdon preached an Ordin<sup>a</sup> Sermon about a year ago, but he told me he was not sent to by the Chh., neither did he lay on hands in Ordination. M<sup>r</sup> Burr, D<sup>r</sup> Dagget & others have assisted, but in Character of Pastors of Chhs not as Presidents. It is my opinion that I retain my official Sacerdotal Character. I have baptized Children & admitted persons to full Communion since my presidency. I am ready to perform all parts of the ministerial Office, tho' I have not the pastoral Charge of any particular Church. Rector Williams and President Clap never administered the Seals nor ordained after they became Heads of the College. Neither did Presidents Leverett, Wadsworth, Holyoke, and Locke of Harvard College. But Presidents Chauncy, Mather and Willard & I suppose Oakes did; yet all except M<sup>r</sup> Chauncy as Pastors. The office power doth not cease with the Dissolution of a past. Relation to a particular Chh.

## LETTER MISSIVE.

"The first Chh of Christ in Killingworth to the Rev<sup>d</sup> President of Yale College in New Haven, wisheth Grace, Mercy & Peace from the Father and our Lord Jesus Christ.

REV<sup>d</sup> DEARLY BELOVED

The first Chh. and Society in Killingworth hav<sup>e</sup> unanimously made Choice of M<sup>r</sup> Achilles Mansfield to be our pastor, desire your Attendance to assist in his Ordination and regular Induction into the sacred Work of the Gospel Ministry ; which is to be attended on the 6<sup>th</sup> day of Jan<sup>ry</sup> next. Requesting your prayers to God that he be made a burning & shining Light in this part of the K<sup>m</sup> of the dear Redeemer, & come unto us in the fulness of the bless<sup>d</sup> of the Gospel of Christ.

AARON ELIOT }  
NATH<sup>l</sup> STEVENS } Church Committee.  
GEORGE ELIOT }

P. S. The Churches sent for with their Pastors—the 1<sup>st</sup> Chh in New Haven, the 1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>d</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> in Guilf<sup>d</sup>, the 2<sup>d</sup> in Killingworth, the Chh in Haddam, the 3<sup>d</sup> Chh in Saybrook, and the 1<sup>st</sup> Chh in Lyme.

To the Rev<sup>d</sup> Doctor Stiles President of Y. C. in N. H."

5. The ordination Council formed at Killingworth.

6. M<sup>r</sup> Mansfield was publickly ordained by the Laying on of the Hands of four Elders viz, Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Todd, Seward, Whittelsey, Stiles : then the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> May came up into the pulpit and gave the Right hand of Fellowship : agreeable to this Result.

"At an Ecclesiastical Council Convened at the house of George Eliot Esq. in Killingworth on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of January 1779, at the Call of the first Chh of X in Killingw. to set apart M<sup>r</sup> Achilles Mansfield to the Work of the Gospel Ministry.

## Present.

|                                           | Rev. Elders                                 | Messengers.                      |
|-------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 <sup>d</sup> Chh. of Guilford           | Rev. Jonathan Todd                          | Deacon Tim <sup>o</sup> Hill     |
| 2 <sup>d</sup> Chh of Killingw.           | William Seward                              | Deacon Dodo Pierson              |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Chh in New Haven          | Chauncy Whittelsey                          | Deacon Stephen Ball              |
|                                           | Rev. Ezra Stiles President of Yale College. |                                  |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Chh in Haddam             | Eleazar May                                 | Hez. Brainerd Esq.               |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Chh in Guilf <sup>d</sup> | Amos Fowler                                 | Deacon Nath <sup>l</sup> Ruggles |
| 3 <sup>d</sup> Chh in Saybrook            | Jn <sup>o</sup> Devotion                    | Deacon Jedidiah Chapman          |
| 5 <sup>th</sup> Chh in Guilf <sup>d</sup> | Richard Ely                                 | Deacon Caleb Munger.             |

The Rev. Jon<sup>a</sup> Todd was chosen Moderator.

Rev. Jn<sup>o</sup> Devotion chosen Scribe.

The Council was opened with Prayer by the Moderator. The Chh. Committee then laid before this Council the unanimous Election



& Call of the Chh & Society in this place of M<sup>r</sup> Achilles Mansfield to the pastoral Office in this place, and his Accept<sup>a</sup> of the same. The Question was then put, Whether the Chh & Society have proceeded regularly in their Invitation & Call of M<sup>r</sup> Mansfield to the Work of the Gospel Ministry among them? Voted in the Affirmative.

This Council then proceeded to examine M<sup>r</sup> Mansf<sup>d</sup> touching his Knowledge, Orthodoxy, & ministerial Qualifications, & his Views in undertak<sup>e</sup> the Work of the Ministry. Voted that he has given full Satisfaction by his Answers to this Council.

The Question was then put whether this Council see their Way clear to proceed to the Ordination of M<sup>r</sup> A. Mansfield? Voted in the Affirm<sup>a</sup>.

Voted, that the Ordin<sup>a</sup> of M<sup>r</sup> Mansf<sup>d</sup> be attended at XI o'Clock to morrow A M.

Ordered, That the Reverend Mess<sup>rs</sup> the President of Yale College make the introductory Prayer antecedent to the Sermon; that Rev. Chauncy Whitt<sup>y</sup> preach the Sermon: Rev. Jon<sup>a</sup> Todd make the Consecration prayer and give the Charge; Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Seward the concluding prayer; and Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> May give the Righthand of Fellowship. The whole of the above voted unanimously.

The Council proceeded to Ordination accordingly.

Test JN<sup>o</sup> DEVOTION Scribe."

Exercises XI<sup>h</sup> 15' I began with prayer

40. End first prayer

41. M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey preached

XII. 30 End Sermon.

M<sup>r</sup> Devotion read the Result: and M<sup>r</sup> Todd led the Chh to renew their Call & the pastor elect to accept.

37 M<sup>r</sup> Todd prayed and Imposition of Hands

I. o End of Prayer

Imposition of Hands repeated and Charge

30 End Charge. M<sup>r</sup> Seward last Prayer.

35 M<sup>r</sup> May R<sup>t</sup> Hand: & M<sup>r</sup> Mansf<sup>d</sup> gave Psalm.

45 Blessing & End of the Solemnity.

9. M<sup>r</sup> Evans<sup>1</sup> Chaplain to G. Poor's Brigade visited me. From him I rec<sup>d</sup> an acc<sup>t</sup> of the Army. In the year 1778, we had sixteen Major Generals & nineteen Brig. Generals in the Cont. Army or thereabouts. Some of which as follows.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Israel Evans (Princeton 1772), afterwards pastor in Concord, N. H.

## GEN. WASHINGTON.

## Major Generals

|           |                       |                       |
|-----------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| M. G. Lee | M. G. Ld. Sterling    | M. G. Baron de Kahlm  |
| Schuyler  | Gates                 | Baron Stueben         |
| Putnam    | St. Clair             | Marquis de la Fayette |
| Sullivan  | Lincoln               | Howe, Virgin.         |
| Green     | Arnold                | Thompson, Pensylv.    |
| Heath     | M <sup>c</sup> Dougal |                       |

## Some of the Brig. Generals.

|                          |                                           |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------------------|
| B. G. De Portel Engineer | B. G. Hand Riflem.                        |
| Count Pulaski            | M <sup>c</sup> Intosh F <sup>t</sup> Pitt |
|                          | Starks &c &c.                             |

| Brigades                                | Army 1778       | Chaplains                               |
|-----------------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------------------------------|
| New Hampshire . . . .                   | B. C. Poor      | Rev. Israel Evans Pensylv <sup>a</sup>  |
| Massach. 1 <sup>st</sup> . . . .        | Glover          | Rev. Vanhorn Bapt. Pensylv <sup>a</sup> |
| 2 <sup>d</sup> . . . .                  | Nixon           | Rev. Hez. Smith B. Haverhill            |
| 3 <sup>d</sup> . . . .                  | Patterson       | Rev. Enos Hitchcock Beverly             |
| 4 . . . .                               | late G. Learned | Rev. Mr. Avery                          |
| Rh. Isld. . . .                         | Varnum          | Rev. Mr. Thompson B. Warren             |
| Connect. 1 . . . .                      | Huntington      | Rev. Jn <sup>o</sup> Ellis Norwich      |
| 2 <sup>d</sup> . . . .                  | Parsons         | Rev. Tim <sup>o</sup> Dwight            |
| New York 1 . . . .                      | James Clinton   | Rev. Mr. Gano B. N. Y.                  |
| Jersey . . . .                          | Maxwell         | Mr. Andrew Hunter                       |
| Pensylv <sup>a</sup> 1 . . . .          | } Wayne         | Rev. Rob <sup>t</sup> Blackwell E.      |
| 2 . . . .                               |                 | Rev. David Jones B. Jersey              |
| 3 . . . .                               |                 | Rev. W <sup>m</sup> Rogers B.           |
| Maryl <sup>d</sup> 1 . . . .            | } Smalwood      | Rev. Jos. Montgomery                    |
| 2 . . . .                               |                 | Rev. James Armstrong                    |
| Virginia 1 . . . .                      | Muhlenburg      | Rev. Mr. Belmain E.                     |
| 2 . . . .                               | Scott           | Rev. Jn <sup>o</sup> Hurt E             |
| 3 . . . .                               | Woodford        | Rev. Mr. Griffiths E                    |
| N <sup>o</sup> Car <sup>o</sup>         |                 | Mr. Boyd                                |
| S <sup>o</sup> Car <sup>o</sup> . . . . | Moultrie        | Qu.                                     |

The Brigade of Horse no General . . . M<sup>r</sup> Williamson E  
 A German Chaplain at large . . . Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Miller  
 Brigade Artillery . . . G. Knox . . Rev. D<sup>r</sup> MacWhorter.

10. Ldsdy. Attended M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>rs</sup> Meetg. Rev M<sup>r</sup> Evans preached all day. Towards Even<sup>g</sup> I was called to North Haven to visit my Mother.

12. At VIII<sup>h</sup> 40<sup>"</sup> Manè, died Madam *Esther Stiles* second Wife & Relict of my late father Rev Isaac Stiles, ætat. 77 circa. She was my worthy Mother in Law.<sup>1</sup> Received Letters from Pisca-

<sup>1</sup> President Stiles's mother died in December, 1727, and his father married Esther Hooker in 1728.

taqua, one a Letter missive from the 1<sup>st</sup> Chh there asking me to assist in the Ordination of M<sup>r</sup> Buckminster their pastor Elect.

"Reverend Sir

PORTSMOUTH, Dec. 21<sup>st</sup> 1778.

Remembering with pleasure the obligation We are under to you, and the mutual Affection that subsisted between us while favoured with your ministerial Labours, we cannot but wish for your presence & assistance on Wednesday the 27<sup>th</sup> day of January next, being the fourth Wednesday in the Month, in solemnly ordaining Mr. Joseph Buckminster whom we have been led to make choice of to be set over us in the Lord. As we could not invite you as a Pastor of any Church We are happy to find it is not unprecedented to invite a President of a College in Character of a Minister to be a Member of an ordaining Council. Wishing you every support in your arduous and honorable Station, and that under your Auspices, Youth may be trained up to Religion & Virtue, and annually go forth to make glad the City of our God, We subscribe in Behalf of the Church

Your Brethren in the Gospel

|                            |                       |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|
| WILLIAM PARKER             | } Church<br>Committee |
| SAM <sup>l</sup> PENHALLOW |                       |
| SAM <sup>l</sup> CUTTS     |                       |

To the Rev<sup>d</sup> Ezra Stiles D D.

President of Yale College in New Haven."

13. Just before sunset, the Funeral of my Mother attended. Rev. Doctors Daggett & Dana, Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Williams, Trumbull, Edwards, and Deacon Cooper Pall Bearers. The Corps carried to the Meetinghouse where my Father preached formerly. D<sup>r</sup> Dana made a Prayer. And at the Grave M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull<sup>1</sup> made a speech.

14. Returned home. Vacation begins for 3 Weeks, altho' the Students were dismissed 29<sup>th</sup> last Month, for want of Supplies to the Steward.

17. Ldsdy. Kept Sabbath at North Haven with the Family.

18. Rode to M<sup>r</sup> Williams at Northford to consult on protracting Vacancy.

19. Consulted M<sup>r</sup>. Goodrich at Durham another Fellow.

20. Rode with Major Otis to Hartford; and with him waited upon his Excellency Gov. Trumbull, on the subject of soliciting the Gen. Assembly then sitting for Relief to Newport Sufferers, two or 300 Families being thrust out of Newp<sup>t</sup> within 6 W. or 2 Months last past in great Destress. Also to request of the Gov. his assistance of the Steward respect<sup>g</sup> flour from the public Stores.

21. Introduced into the Assembly to speak for Newp<sup>t</sup> Sufferers. Rode to E. Hartf<sup>d</sup> & consulted M<sup>r</sup> Williams another fellow.

<sup>1</sup> Benjamin Trumbull (Yale 1759), the successor of D<sup>r</sup> Stiles's father in the North Haven pulpit.



22. Visited Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Strong of Hartford, Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Marsh of Weathersf<sup>d</sup>; and rode to Farmington, & consulted M<sup>r</sup> Pitkin another fellow. All of opinion Vacancy must not be put off.

24. Ldsdy. At New Cheshire. I preached all day for M<sup>r</sup> Foot.

26. Returned to New Haven.

30. Obligated to extend Vacation a fourt'night fr. 4 to 18 Feby.

31. Ldsdy. I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey who is sick.

# February.

7. Ldsdy. I preached for D<sup>r</sup> Dana at Wallingford.

14. Ldsdy. I preached for Mr Whitt<sup>y</sup> again. A Contribution by order of Assembly for Newp<sup>t</sup> Sufferers. Gathered £65 cir.

18. Vacation ended. I set up orders at College, present 30 Students.

20. Evening. I resumed the Exposition of the Savoy Confession of Faith in the Chapel.

21. Ldsdy. Divine Service in the Chapel. Professor Dagget preached A.M. on Mat. xi, 12. P.M. Jer. —Faces Zionward.

22. Received of M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup> the Diploma of his Father, Rev. Sam<sup>l</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup><sup>1</sup> of Wallingford dated Sept. 10. 1707. being Commencement at Saybrook, & signed by M<sup>r</sup> And<sup>w</sup> Rect. pro Temp. & two Trustees by Name of Inspectores. It was for A.M. altho' he took his first Degree but in 1705.      Copey.

Omnibus & Singulis has Literas lecturis Salutem in Domino. Vobis notum sit quod Samuelem Whittelsey Candidatum Secundum in Artibus Gradum competentem, tam probavimus quam approbavimus; Quem Examine sufficienti prævio approbatum, Nobis placet Titulo Graduque Artium Liberalium Magistri et adornare et condecorare. Cujus hoc Instrumentum in Membranâ scriptum Testimonium sit.

Datum a Gymnasio Academico  
Connecticutensi Sep.<sup>bris</sup> 10<sup>o</sup> Anno  
Domini 1707.

SAMUEL ANDREW  
Rect<sup>r</sup> pro Tempore  
JAMES NOYES } Inspectores.<sup>2</sup>  
THO. BUCKINGHAM }

. . . . . My late honoured Mother in Law Stiles was born 1702.  
" Esther Hooker Daughter of Samuel Hooker of Farmington born

<sup>1</sup>The Rev. Samuel Whittelsey died in April, 1752, and President Stiles, then Tutor, contributed to the *Boston Postboy* of May 11 a notice descriptive of his Character.

<sup>2</sup>This diploma is preserved in the archives of the University: it is on parchment, about 7¾ by 5¾ inches.

Nov<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup>, 1702. A true Copy of Record. Test Solomon Whitman Town Clerk."

26. Received 200 Copies of my Oration from the Printer at Hartford.

At sunset arrived here on Express to Gen. Silliman<sup>1</sup> at the Sup. Court, advising that 600 of the En<sup>v</sup> from Kingsbridge had this Morn<sup>s</sup> entered Horseneck.

27. At calling over the Monitors Bill this Morn<sup>g</sup>. I find there are seventy-eight Undergraduates convened at College.

#### THE ENEMY'S ACC<sup>o</sup> OF TAKING GEORGIA.

"SAVANNA Jany. 13<sup>th</sup> 1779. On the Morn<sup>s</sup> of the 29<sup>th</sup> (Dec.) the first Div. landed consist<sup>d</sup> of the 1<sup>st</sup> Battal. of 71<sup>st</sup>, the Battal. of Light Infantry, and N York Volunteers, four Miles below the To. of Savanna, the rebels fired some shot &c. When we approached the T<sup>o</sup> we found the Enemy in a Cornfield at some dist. formed in order of Battle. Sir James Baird was ordered with the Light Infantry to turn their flank, which he effected—the Enemy gave way—we killed a good Number & took four Hundred Prisoners.—All the Province is in possession of his Majesty's Troops. Gen. Provost has taken Sunbury with upwards of Two hundred Prisoners.—Our loss is not above twenty killed & wounded."

SAVANNA Jany. 19.

"The Rebels consist<sup>d</sup> of Thompsons & Engus's Car<sup>r</sup> Troops, four Battal. of the Georgia Brigade, some Lighthorse, & a great number of Militia, were drawn up on the road about half a mile from Town under the Command of Major Gen. Rob<sup>t</sup> Howe.—Col Campbell—his little Army rushed on & immediately dispersed them, took 38 officers & 415 noncommiss. Off. & privates 1 stand Colours 48 pieces of Canon 1 Mortar 94 Bbs powder, the fort with all its stores & the Town before it was dark. Eighty three Rebels were found dead on the field & eleven wounded. The loss to Col. Campbell was six killed & fourteen wounded. On the first of Jany. Col Campbell with about fifteen hundred men pursued the Rebels up the River Savanna & took Possession of Eben<sup>r</sup> Town; the 4<sup>th</sup> took post at the Two Sisters (a ferry at which the scattered remains of Howes ragged Troops retreated across to S<sup>c</sup> Carolina); the 5<sup>th</sup> the Col. visited M<sup>t</sup> Pleasant about 45 miles above this T<sup>o</sup>, & hav<sup>e</sup> secured the intermediate posts returned to Savan. the tenth.

Sunbury fort was taken by Gen. Provost eight days ago with near 200 Prisoners, who are hourly expected here. In short Georgia is effectually conquered, Trade is opened & the Loyalists flock in very fast. Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> Jan. Gen. Provost took 211 Prisoners at Sunby ft. & arrived here yest<sup>v</sup> Even<sup>g</sup>."

<sup>1</sup>Gold Selleck Silliman (Y. C. 1752), Brigadier General of Militia and father of the elder Professor Silliman; he was a lawyer by profession, and thus in attendance on the sessions of the Court.

Rem. This fleet sailed from N. York said to have *five Thousd. Troops* on board Twenty Sail,—Tories under Gen. Cortlandt Skinner, three Battal. of the 71<sup>st</sup> Brit. Regt. McLeods Highlanders. That about 3 W. before they left N. Y. a fleet sailed fr. thence with *Ten Thousd.* given out for Virgin. but supposed for W. Indies. Now obs. the 5000 becomes 1500: and again a *little army*: again one instead of 3 Battal. of 71<sup>st</sup>. In short analyse the matter, & it may turn out that there was a Corps say of 3 or 400 brave Highlanders and Light Inf<sup>y</sup>, with perhaps 8 or 1000 refugee Tories, and this all. Twenty Transports might carry these. However they have done a great Work. They have conquered 3 Towns, Savanna of 300 Houses, Ebenezer of say 100, & Sunbury of say 120. This they call the Conquest of a Province. Indeed the whole Prov. of Georgia don't contain so many Whites as the single Island only of Rh. Isld, not above Twelve Thousd Souls. She is however one of the XIII States, & a mother in our Amer. Israel.

Last night at Midnight a second Express came thro' T<sup>o</sup> in way to G. Wadsw. to raise the Militia. At noon to-day another Express advised the En<sup>y</sup> were gone off.

28. Ldsdy. I preached for Rev. Mr. Mather of Fair Haven. . . . Therm. 62 at noon, fair, warm. Reading Philo Judæus.

### March

1. The Seniors disputed An Bellum utrinque sit licitum? This Aft. Hon. — Elsworth last Week from Congress came to Town. He told us there was grand News from Europe which was at present secret, but we should know in due Time. I judge that the Amer. Republic has been canvassed in all the Courts of Europe, & upon Deliberation how to treat it, it is nearly agreed among all to receive & acknowledge it as a Sister Sovereignty: that Engl<sup>d</sup> has found this upon sounding all the Courts: that Spain & Holland will joyn with France if necessary. This is decisive. Bro't I suppose by the Spanish Ship lately arrived at Philadelphia. If Spain takes an active part, & none of the other powers joyn Britain in the Affair of America, Britain must give up.

Mr. Elsw. told me that as he came by Elizabeth Town he saw the Firing &c—a party (800) hav<sup>g</sup> come off Staten Island & burnt some houses & return: such an Excursion as that of Gov. Tryon & 1500 last Friday to Horseneck, returned also. A little Exercise & gratification to Tories!



2. Report that Engl<sup>a</sup> offers France Canada &c to desert us.

3. Gen. Washington's Birthday celebrated 11<sup>th</sup> ult. at Milton. He was born in Virginia in C<sup>s</sup> of Westmoreland, Feb. 11<sup>th</sup>, 1732. So now æt. 47.

4. Attended Mr. Edwds Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lect. And at V<sup>h</sup> exhibited my own upon Ecc. Hist. in the Chapel. I was absent yesterday from Professor Strong's Phil. Lecture.

5. Reading Jamblichus Life of Pythagoras.

7. Ldsdy. I preached at North Haven all day. . . . I partook at the Sacrament, administered by the Rev. Mr. Trumbull, who intimated my desire to partake and took the Vote of the Brethren by uplifted hands. This seemed to be superfluous & singular especially in my Case, who was a Member of that Chh, admitted into full Communion there in 1746, & never dismissed nor my relation transferred to any other Chh, not even to my Chh in Rh. Island; and different from the immemorial usage of N<sup>s</sup> Hav. Chh in my father's day—who only mentioned to the B<sup>s</sup> previous to the Ordinance, that A. B. a member in full Commun. in the Chh of —— being providentially present desired to partake, & nothing being said the person partook. But Mr. Trumbull at his first settling brot in a Custom adopted from Mr. Lothrop<sup>i</sup> of Hebron, the Minister under whom he was educated, and at the administrating the Ordin<sup>a</sup> gave out a public Invit<sup>s</sup>—if there were any present who were Members of other Chhs they were desired to partake &c. The Br<sup>s</sup> of our Chh did not like that, desiring I presume that the matter shd be intimated by the Pastor in the usual Way. He then went from the one extreme of universal Invit<sup>s</sup> to the other superfluous Extreme of voting on every Case of occasional Communion.

8. With my Brethren viewing the family Estate.

9. Endeavoring a Division of 96 acres & part Dwell<sup>s</sup> house.<sup>2</sup>

10. Reading Jamblichus. Attended Professor Strong's Lecture. Excursions of Enemy. On Friday 26 Feb. a corps of the Enemy about 14 or fifteen hundred marched from Kings Bridge under the Command of Governor Tryon, & reached Horsneck about Nine o'Clock in the Morning, & came within four Miles of Stamford. They returned III o'Clock P.M. the same day & lodged at Rye friday night. They burned several Houses & plundered &c.

The day before viz morning of Thursday 25 Feb. a party of the

<sup>1</sup> Elijah Lathrop (Yale 1749).

<sup>2</sup> Two half-brothers and one half-sister of Dr. Stiles were still living.

En<sup>y</sup> landed at Elizabeth T<sup>o</sup> in Jersies from Staten Isld, & burned the Barracks, a school-house, two dwelling houses & returned.

11. This day my son Ezra æt. 20. I gave my Lecture on Eccles. History : Subject the X Gen. Persecutions. Ezra measures 5 f. 9 inches.

12. I went to North Haven. Rode with a Boston Gentleman who left Philad<sup>a</sup> wednesd<sup>y</sup> last Week—knows not the good News ; so toryfied that he heard nothing of what D<sup>r</sup> Witherspoon communicated at G. Washington's Table 27<sup>th</sup> ult. respect<sup>s</sup> the Friendship of Spain, the King of 2 Sicilies, Holland, & Petersburg.

14. Ldsdy. Attended in Chapel. Professor Daggett preached all day on 1 Cor. xiii, ii. Reading the venerable *Epiphanius*. . .

15. . . The Seniors disputed—Cultus Angelorum & Sanctorum a Deo vetitus est. . .

16. Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Wms & Goodrich & myself as a Committee of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> met & settled the Price of Commons per Week. Tuition £10, 10, 0 per Qu<sup>r</sup> for 20/L. M. old way &c.

17. Quarter Day. After Dinner in the Hall, assembled in the Chapel, where were exhibited the following Exercises a number of Gentlemen & Ladies present, viz a Latin Oration ; then a Dialogue ; an Anthem ; a second Dialogue or dramatic representation of the invasion of the Tories & Indians upon Susquehanna led on by Col. Butler, in which Pixley acted the Indian Warrior inimitably ; an English Oration ; an Anthem Concluded.

18. The Committee agreed to call the Corporation. I find among M<sup>r</sup>. Noyes's<sup>1</sup> MSS. a letter of his dated July 1714 to Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Andrew requesting that a Catalogue & Theses might be printed by the Candidates of the College at Saybrook as elsewhere, accord<sup>s</sup> to a Vote of the Trustees as he says ; & pray<sup>s</sup> his Correction & Approbation of Copies sent. Hence no printed &c. in this College before 1714. I have a printed Theses of 1722.<sup>2</sup> They have been usually printed ever since, excepting a few (perhaps half a dozen) private or no Commencemen<sup>ts</sup> since 1760. There were no printed Masters Questions till Rector Clap introduced them about 1742,<sup>3</sup> certainly none 1741. Mr. Fisk was elected Tutor in the fall of 1705 and continued till 1713 or about eight years, the longest in the

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Joseph Noyes (Y. C. 1709), pastor of the New Haven Church, died in 1761. Probably his manuscripts were now in possession of his daughter, the wife of Judge Thomas Darling (Y. C. 1740), of New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> No copy is now known.

<sup>3</sup> The first were printed in 1740, and then regularly from 1742.

Tutorship of any before or since. The College devolved upon him at Rector Piersons Death 1707. From thence till the Removal of the College to N. Haven Mr. Fisk & Mr. Noyes were very eminent & cardinal Tutors far beyond any other. After Mr. Fisk left it, the headship devolved upon Mr. Noyes who was in the Tutorship five years. So that he was perfectly acquainted with all College Affairs. I have before me an original Letter of his to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Samuel Andrew, who had the Superintendence of the College as Rector pro Tempore, having been elected such in 1707 in May or June immediately after Rector Pierson's Death.

"REV<sup>d</sup> SIR

I purposed to wait on you & to be our Epistle to yourself but many things prevent, especially Mr. Russel's absence; we content ourselves in sending one of the Candidates to bear this Epistle; which is to informe you rev<sup>d</sup> Sir, y<sup>t</sup> on Thursday of this week (according to the Custom of this School) y<sup>e</sup> candidates were proved & approved, present M<sup>r</sup> Noyes of Lyme, y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ruggles, as also y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Hart, M<sup>r</sup> Fisk, M<sup>r</sup> Mather &c. Our request is y<sup>t</sup> you would, Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir appoint y<sup>m</sup> y<sup>e</sup> Commentment work. Moreover it being granted at A meetinge of the trustees, & recorded, y<sup>t</sup> *candidates in this School may print theses & A Catalogue*, as in other Schoolse, we & they humbly request yourself would take the trouble to examine the theses & Catalogue presented to you by y<sup>e</sup> bearer—please to reject or insert theses as you please. It is also our humble request y<sup>t</sup> yourself would give y<sup>e</sup> Theses A dedication. Students are all in health; we always, Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir, request your prayers, knowinge our charge is greate. Our Duty waight on Maddam Andrew. We shall not add, but the offer of humblest service to yourself, testifyinge y<sup>t</sup> we are Your  
very humble and obedient servant

SAY-BROOK July 26, 1714

JOS. NOYES."

"To the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Andrew Rector of  
the Collegiate Schooll in Connecticut."

19. Yesterday I held my Lecture. I gave a summary of the *Doctrines* and *Polity* of the catholic Chh in the 3 first centuries. . . .

20. Dr. Prime took the Degree of Medicinæ Doctor at Leyden 1764 circa. In several Interviews & Trials on Exams. &c. with the Professors of the Faculty, he was directed to pay the customary Fees to the Beadle of the University at three times, the first about 60 Guilders, the others so as to make about 200 Guilders in whole: after this a Ducate for his Diploma. Total Expences of going from London to Holld & solliciting the Degree about £50 Y. Money.

21. Ldsdy. Professor Dagget preached all day upon Prov. ii,  
1-5. . . .

22. Snow five inches last night. I think we begin to have certain



Intelligence that Gen. Lincoln & the continental Army have gained a capital Victory in Georgia. Did not attend Syllogistic Dispute.

23. Forensic Disputation, Whether the whole human race will finally be saved? I sent off a copy of my Oration to Gov. Trumbull, another to Rev. Dr. Lord.<sup>1</sup>

25. I exhibited a Lecture on Epiphanius. Mr. Strong no Lect. yesterday.

26. There are about 200 Cont. Troops withdrawn, & perhaps 300 now left at New London under G. Parsons. The En<sup>y</sup>. have wintered 1500 at E. End L. Isld, and lately marched them for N. York. But it is said that G. Clinton with 5 or 6000 are gone to E. End L. Isld, & it is feared they mean a Descent on N. London, to destroy our shipping there.

27. According to the Monitors Bill this Morn<sup>g</sup> there are 101 Undergraduates present at College, & about 20 absent. Of these about 80 in Commons . . . . . At IX o'Clock this Morn<sup>g</sup> we saw a Fleet of Men o' War & Transp<sup>ts</sup> pass by this Harbor to the Eastward. Wind N light Breeze. Poor N. London!

28. Ldsdy. Professor Daggett preached all day 2 Timo. ii. Another fleet passed eastward to day. Alarming. Reading the Syriac Apocalypse, and also Epiphanius.

29. Under great Apprehensions for N. London.

30. This Morn<sup>g</sup> at 1½<sup>h</sup> old College Edifice took fire in the Library.<sup>2</sup> It was calm moonshine, no wind. It raged violently some time, but by the Blessing of G<sup>d</sup> extinguished. . . . .

Specimen Diplomatis Coll. Val. Rev. Tim<sup>o</sup> Cutler, Rector.

"Omnibus et singulis has Literas lecturis Salutem in Domino. Vobis notum sit quod Johannem Beach Candidatum primum in Artibus gradum competentem, tam probavimus quam approbavimus; Quem Examine sufficiente prævio approbatum, Nobis placet Titulo Graduque Artium Liberalium Baccalaurei et adornare et condecorare. Cujus hoc Instrumentum in Membranâ scriptum Testimonium sit.

Datum à Collegio Yalensi quod  
est Novi-Porti Connecticutensium  
Idibus Septembris Anno Domini 1721.

*Timotheus Cutler* Rector.

|               |               |
|---------------|---------------|
| SAMUEL ANDREW | } Curatores." |
| T. WOODBRIDGE |               |
| THO. RUGGLES  |               |

Exemplar è Diplomate originali exscriptum 31 Martij 1779.

EZRA STILES.

<sup>1</sup> Rev. Dr. Benjamin Lord (Yale 1714), of Norwich, Conn., who was the oldest living graduate of the College. He was also an uncle by marriage of Dr. Stiles.

<sup>2</sup> The room over the Dining Hall, being the second story at the south end.

31. Exam<sup>s</sup> 150 Lett. of Rev. James Noyes of Stonington to his son Joseph of N. Haven from his enter<sup>s</sup> College 1706 to his Death 1719 æt. 81. Attended Prof. Strong's Lecture.

## April

1. I had no Lecture to day, as just at Lecture time this Aft. a Brigade of 500 Contin. Troops came into Town to be stationed here as we hope for the present. The Militia & Freeholders on the E. side Connect. River are ordered to march & to parade at N. Lond. yesterday Morning. It is said that G. Clinton is returned from the E. End of the Isld., & that some of the ships have gone eastward & others westward. Pray Gd. N. Lond. may be saved this Time. I dismissed *Cowles* a Junior Sophister for Harv. College.

2. Went to North Haven on division of my Father's Farm.

3. News of European commercial Friendship towards our Independency.

4. Ldsdy. Professor Dagget preached A.M. Luke vii, 34, Friend to publicans &c. and administered the Sacram<sup>t</sup>, *only five Communicants* present, the D<sup>r</sup>, myself and 3 Undergraduates. The Ways of Zion mourn, none com<sup>e</sup> to her solemn feasts. P.M. I preached in the Chapel Acts xv, 18.

5. Gen. Parsons in T<sup>o</sup> fr. N. London says the Militia assembl<sup>d</sup> there but are under no Apprehension of a Visit from the Enemy. Isaac began Tully's 1st Cataline.

6. . . Yesterday the Seniors disputed—*Differentia inter Bonum & Malum morale est æterna & immutabilis*: this day, Which the most just & eligible mode of Taxation for paying the Continental Debt, that founded on *Estates*, or that on the *Number of Inhabitants*, or that on a Ratio & Valuation compounded or constituted of both?

10. About 130 Troops left N. H. march<sup>s</sup> westward; and the Danger seems to be over for the present at N. London. Last Month the Enemy gained a Victory over us in Georgia; but still our Army there under G. Lincoln is in Force & good Order. It is said that the two Armies in that southern part consist of 5 or 6000 each. Our Continental Money is depretiated to Twelve for one, i. e. twelve paper Doll. equal only to one silver Dollar. Tho' 40 Mill. Doll. or nearly half the Currency is taken out of Circulation by calling in the Emissions of 1777 & 1778, yet the Depretiation goes on with great Rapidity.

11. Ldsdy. Dr. Dagget preached all day on 2 Tim. iii, 16. . . .

12. Freeman's Meeting—Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Street preached Deut.—The Pastors of the Township of New Haven met at my house afternoon and appointed me to preach the next. I took it into Consideration. All the Ministers but one present viz, Mess<sup>rs</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup>, Street, Trumbull, Edwds, Hawley, Williston & Mather: abs<sup>t</sup> Mr. Woodbridge.<sup>1</sup> No Disputation.

13. Question disputed, Whether the Motives of all human Action terminate in self or personal Interest?

14. Mr. Lockwood brought me from Stamford &c several Diplomas: That of Mr. Steph. Buckingham Minister of Norwalk, the first ever given in Connecticut College A D 1702,<sup>2</sup>—3 of Rev. Dr. Welles' and Mr. Wolsey's. He found Mr. Buckingham's in the hands of aged Mrs. Hooker<sup>3</sup> of Norwalk: the others he received from Mrs. Welles Relict of the Doctor, & Daughter of Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Woolsey. All given to be deposited in Yale College Archives.

15. I attended Professor Strong's Lecture yesterday; and exhibited one myself to day.

16. The grand List of Connecticut Jany. 1778 was near Two Millions or exactly £1,935,176. By several Estimates the *true Estate* is twelve times as much old way, or £23,000,000, equal to 18 Millions ster<sup>l</sup>. If but a 12<sup>th</sup> part of XIII States the American Estate is 250 Millions old Way. The continental Debt Jany. 1779 stood at *Ninety one Million & half Million Dollars* emitted by Congress; and there has been rec<sup>d</sup> by Loan 13½ Mill. Doll. more, amount<sup>g</sup> in the whole to 105,000,000 Dollars of which five Mill. then in hand. But say only 3½ Mill. Pounds in Circulation. There is a small Debt to France, so whole Debt £32,000,000 present Currency—consid<sup>y</sup> less than four Million L. M. or reckoning Curr<sup>y</sup> at ten for 1 it is 3¼ Mill.

A Tax of 4<sup>d</sup> on the pound upon 240 Mill. property of United

<sup>1</sup> The sermon at the annual Freeman's Meeting (for the election of deputies to the General Assembly and other officers) was a regular institution, and was occasionally printed (e. g., one by Dr. Stiles's father in 1743, and one by the Rev. Benjamin Trumbull in 1773).

The Rev. Benjamin Woodbridge (Y. C. 1740), of what is now Woodbridge, who was absent from this fraternal gathering, was out of sympathy with his brethren by reason of his conservative views on the question of relations with the mother country.

<sup>2</sup> This is preserved in the University Library, on parchment, 8¼ by 6¼ inches. A facsimile is given on the next page.

<sup>3</sup> Mr. Buckingham's wife (Sarah Hooker) survived him, without children; and her relatives were his heirs.



States would raise four Million, a sum sufficient, says M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull,<sup>1</sup> to discharge the whole Continental Debt. This only 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>4</sub> on

*Omnibus & singulis has literas lecturis Salutem in Domina  
 Vobis notum sit, Quod Stephanum Buckingham Con-  
 :idatum, Secundum in Artibus Gradum, Imperantem, tam  
 probavimus, quam approbavimus, Quem examine & tentamine  
 praece approbatum, Nobis placet, Titulo & Gradu Artium Libe-  
 :ratum Magistri, & ornare & decorare; Cuius hoc Instrumentum  
 in membrana scriptum Testimonium sit. A Gymnasio Acad-  
 :emico in Colonia Connecticutensi, Nov-Anglia, Datum Say Brooki  
 Decimo sexto Calendarum Octobris; Anno Domini MDCCII  
 Norad. P. 2285u Rector.*

*James Noyes } Inspectores.  
 Norad. P. 2285u }  
 Chas. R. R. }  
 Chas. R. R. }*

£100. Suppose the whole Expenditure of the War till its end shall amount to Eight Million Pounds L. M. old way or six Mill.

<sup>1</sup> John Trumbull (Y. C. 1767), lawyer and poet, who was Treasurer of the College from 1776 to 1782; on account of the unsettled state of affairs he was then living, however, at his father's house in Westbury Parish, now Watertown, Conn.

sterling a Tax of Property at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  per cent. would discharge the whole: What man worth £100 would not willingly pay £3.10 for the Defense of Liberty? Our Proport. of 4 Mill reck<sup>d</sup>. Connect. a 12<sup>th</sup> of the States will be £333,000. A Tax of  $\frac{3}{6}$  the pound on Grand List will discharge it. A Tax of 10<sup>d</sup> for 4 years will do it. This not so high as our Tax last War.

“ From Jan. 8<sup>th</sup> 1755 to Mar. 8, 1764 inclusive there were struck by Connecticut thirteen Emissions of Bills amount<sup>d</sup> to £358,996. 14<sup>s</sup>.9<sup>d</sup> L. M. This considerably exceeds our proportion of the public Debt. Yet in about 9 or ten years the Colony sunk all this money besides pay<sup>d</sup> the Expence of Government. It is allowed by Gentlemen most conversant with pub. affairs at that Time that the Taxes paid by this State within the Term of about 9 or 10 years at a moderate Comput<sup>n</sup> amounted to £500,000 equal to £5,000,000 present Currency.” The number of Inhab. was then 1755 about 108 Thous’d & the Gr. List  $1\frac{1}{3}$  Mill. L. M. now 1778 about Two hundred thousd & Gr. List two Millions.

18. Ldsdy. Therm. 25 at sunrise, a heavy frost. Professor Dagget preached all day on Heb. xi, 6, Evidences of the Being of God. Last Ldsdy he began the Divinity Course or System of Theology.

19. Therm. 25 sunrise. Severe frost. The Assembly broke up last Saturday; and afterwds was immediately called to meet again yesterd<sup>y</sup> noon, tho’ but about a fourte’night to Election. Express is to come to the Members of this Town who returned but Sat<sup>y</sup> night. Something very extraordinary.

20. No news from Engld since 26<sup>th</sup> Dec. last.

21. . . . . I attended Professor Strong’s lecture in the Chapel. On a loose Paper I find Extracts which I made at Malden from a MS. of Rev. Mr. Thatcher of Milton, Ancestor of present Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Thatcher of Malden.

May 1, 1620, Rev. Thomas Thatcher born in Old Engld.

June 4, 1635, Arrived at Boston in N. Engld. May 11, 1643, Married Eliz<sup>a</sup> D. of Rev<sup>d</sup> Ralph Partridge of Duxbury.

June 22, 1644, Removed to Weymouth. Held Immersion in Baptism both of Infants & Adults. Chosen Pastor Janry. 2, 1644.

1650. Removed to Salem where Peter Thatcher (afterwards Pastor of Milton) was born July 18, 1651.

April 21, 1658, Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Partridge died at Duxbury.

1652. . . . . Returned to Weymouth.

1664. . . . Married at Boston & removed thither.

1669, 16, 12. Ordained Pastor of 3<sup>d</sup> Chh. in Boston.

1678, Oct. 15. Died in Boston ætat. 59. Very learned in the Orient. Lang. A Disciple of President Chauncy. But not educated at College.

22. Ecc. Lecture.

23. Many have been the Conjectures upon the Congress Secret. These things are said of it by Congress Members. 1. That it is greater than any news these two years or since Independency. 2. None of the public Conjectures have hit upon it. 3. That it will greatly affect our Currency even to a sudden Appretiation back to full value. 4. That if Peace was to be immed<sup>y</sup> made with Brit. we should have to bear our Curr<sup>y</sup> ourselves, otherwise not. From which I judge the Secret is that *Fr. Holld & Spain & perhaps Europe* in general, for the Benefit of our Commerce, will receive for goods & give Credit to our Amer. Curr<sup>a</sup> or Loan Notes. The Access. of Spain & Holld &c to our Alliance has been conjectured, & their Lending us great Sums; but receiv<sup>e</sup> our Money has not been mentioned.

24. Orders for the Troops stationed here to march.

25. Ldsday. A.M. I preached for Mr. Whittelsey Isai. xi. 10. P.M. I preached at the College Chapel Jn<sup>e</sup> iii, 7. This Morn<sup>e</sup> about 150 Troops stationed here marched for Reading. Ely, a Sen<sup>r</sup>, propounded for Communion.

27. A special Meeting of the Corporation of Y. C. this day. Present the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Williams, D<sup>r</sup> Warham, Trumbull, Johnson, Taylor, Good., Mather, Lockw<sup>d</sup>. They settled Commons at 6 per week on Meat & Grain accord<sup>d</sup> to the prices on which my Salary is established—a Committee of Corpor<sup>a</sup> to meet & settle the prices monthly.

At this Meeting we confirmed the Degree of Doctor of Laws upon his Excellency Gov. Trumbull; and upon his Excellency the Sieur Gerard Ambassador & Minister plenipotentiary from the King of France to Congress.

28. I did not attend the Phil. Lecture. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> had a very serious Conference with Professor Dagget.<sup>1</sup> The Corpor<sup>a</sup> did &c. & finished Business.

<sup>1</sup> The records of the Corporation show no action concerning Professor Daggett, except with reference to a payment of back salary. Perhaps this reference may be explained by the entry below, under June 10, 1779.



29. This day an Estimate of all the Grain & Flour in every family thro' this State to be given in under Oath by Act of Assembly. That it may be seen & known whether & how far we can supply the Army. Begun the public Examin<sup>a</sup> of the Classes. So I had no Lecture.

30. Examin<sup>a</sup> Junior Class.

May

1. Exam. Sophomore Class. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Baldwin has an Invit<sup>a</sup> to leave College & go into the Army.

2. Ldsdy. Professor Dagget preached in the Chapel, Luke vii, 34. Zeb. Ely a Senior Sophister hav<sup>g</sup> been propounded was now led to the public profession of Religion by giving his Assent to the Doctrines of Faith read to him publickly in the Chapel by D<sup>r</sup> Dagget, who then (without Vote of the Brethren) admitted him a Member of the College Church. The assembly after this was dismissed and the Lds Supper was administered there being present only four persons besides the D<sup>r</sup> & myself.

3. Gen. Silliman<sup>1</sup> & son taken last Saturday Night.

4. This morn<sup>g</sup> Vacation began—for a Month. Present in the Chapel about 70 Undergraduates.

5. News of the Death of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr. Wheelock President of Dartmouth College. He died 24th ult. æt. 69.

6. *Continental Fast*, recommended by Congress & authorized by the Governors of the respective States. A.M. I preached for Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Whitt<sup>y</sup> Jer. xlv, 10. P.M. I preached for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Mather Amos iv, 12.

7. Yesterday being Cont. Fast, the Dean's Examin<sup>a</sup> was deferred till this day; when 3 Candidates offered themselves viz Goodrich, Brainerd & Ely Sen. Sophisters. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Bela Hubbard Miss<sup>y</sup> & myself adjudged the Prize to Goodrich.<sup>2</sup>

8. My Fathers Estate at North Haven divided—26 acres to me. Returning the Horse fell with me & hurt my Leg.

<sup>1</sup> Gold S. Silliman (Y. C. 1752), Brigadier General of Conn. Militia. He was seized by the British at his home in Fairfield, and was kept prisoner for about a year.

<sup>2</sup> This examination was for the graduate scholarship endowed by Dean (afterwards Bishop) Berkeley in 1733; the date for the examination, May 6, was originally chosen as being the day when the spring vacation began. By the deed of gift the "Senior Episcopal Missionary" in the Colony was joined as an examiner with the President.

9. Ldsdy. Confined at home all day.

11. News in B<sup>o</sup> Prints that on 3<sup>d</sup> Inst died at Cambridge that truly learned Man the Hon. John Winthrop Esq. LL.D. Hollis Professor of Math. & Nat. Phil. in Harvard College.

12. Reading DuHamels Philosophy.

13. General Election at Hartford. Dr. Dana to preach.

16. Ldsdy. I preached at W. Haven for Rev. Mr. Williston. A.M. Jno. iii, 7. P.M. Isai. xlv, 22.

17. The Returns of Deputies from 73 Towns was 146 of which 45 only were old Members—& 101 new ones. Professor Winthrop was born at Boston Dec. 19, 1714. Entered Harv. College 1728. Graduated there in the Arts 1732 & 1735. In 1738, soon after the Accession of President Holyoke, was elected & installed Professor of Math. & Nat. Philosophy & continued in this office till death. He was honored with the Degree of LL.D. from the University of Edinburg & afterwards from Harv. Coll. He was a Councillor of the civil Legislature. Had the Honor of the Frowns of the King of Britain for his Adherence to the Liberties of his Country. He was re-elected into the Council upon the Independency of America. He was a very high Literary Character especially in the *Oriental Languages* & the *Academic Sciences*! In Math. & nat. Phil. I believe he had not his equal in Europe: he was a perfect master of Newton's Principia—which cannot be said of many Professors of Philosophy in Europe. He was a Firm friend to Revelation in opposition to Deism—I only wish the evangelical Doctors of Grace had made a greater figure in his ideal System of Divinity. His morals were rigidly virtuous exemplary pious. He died 3<sup>d</sup> Inst æt. 65. At his Fun. 8<sup>th</sup> Inst. Prof. Sewall made an Oration.<sup>1</sup> . . . .

18. A Vessel in about 12 days from Charlest S<sup>r</sup> Car<sup>r</sup> advises the En<sup>y</sup> 7000 strong are within 60 M. of Charlestown [N. B. found to be but 2500 in all at Siege of Savanna in Oct.]; that our Army in those parts are in 2 Divisions under Gen. Lincoln & the Gov. of that State, and not far from the En<sup>y</sup>: that Charlest<sup>s</sup> is picketed & an Embargo &c. There sailed fr. N. York within 2 or 3 W. about 4000. So the plan of the Campaign opens—to be chiefly at the Southward, because they seem to have sent off too many fr. N. Y. for any vigorous great Enterprize to the northw<sup>d</sup>. Perhaps they may take Charlest<sup>s</sup>—& then we shall surround & besiege them as

<sup>1</sup> Many of Professor Winthrop's MS. letters are preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers.

we did at Boston & Philadelphia. It shews however that notwithstanding their Talk of Peace they have no Designs of Peace yet. The Tories say, there have gone from N. York last Winter & this Spring *Twelve Thous<sup>d</sup>* viz. 4000 to W. Indies & 8000 to Georgia. Britain has put the Tory new Levies upon Rank & Pay as regular Troops. The Tories estimate these new Levies of Refugee & other Tories at N. York, L. Isld., & Rh. Isld. about 5 or 6000—I judge 1000 or 1200. The Tories entertain great Hopes from all the Indians N<sup>o</sup> & S<sup>o</sup>. We have indeed dispersed the *Onondagas* lately, and shall extirpate the Senecas & perhaps all the Six Nations except the Oneidas. But the Body of the Indians are in the British Interest.

19. Writing Letters to President Langdon, Dr. Chauncy &c.

21. Gen. Silliman is released from N. York on Parole. [Not so.]

22. We have had a fine gentle Rain for 3 days. Growing Season. An Ecclesiastical Council of *Ministers only* sat this Week at Stockbridge upon the Question, whether a Widow Member & Communicant of the Chh. may marry with an Unbeliever or a Man of scandalous & immoral Life? Upon such an Instance in M<sup>r</sup> West's Chh., that Chh. called the Council, not for Decision but for advice only.<sup>1</sup> The Minister of Torrington<sup>2</sup> has refused to marry a Couple because one was not in the Lord. It is a prevailing Notion among the New Div<sup>y</sup> Gentlemen.

23. Ldsdy. I preached for the Rev<sup>d</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Woodbridge at Amity.

24. . . . . Presidents of Colleges with whom I have been personally acquainted.

Harv. Coll.

Rev. Edward Holyoke A.M.

Rev. Samuel Locke D.D.

Rev. Samuel Langdon D.D.

Nassau Hall

Rev. Aaron Burr A.M.

Rev. Jonathan Edwards A.M.

Rev. Samuel Finley D.D.

Rev. Jn<sup>o</sup> Witherspoon D.D.

Yale Coll.

Rev. Timothy Cutler D.D.

Rev. Elisha Williams A.M.

Rev. Thomas Clap A.M.

Dart. Coll.

Rev. Eleazar Wheelock D.D.

Philad<sup>a</sup> Coll.

Rev. William Smith D.D. E

Rev. Francis Alison D.D.

Kings Coll. N. York.

Rev. Sam<sup>l</sup> Johnson D.D. E

Rev. Sam<sup>l</sup> Cooper L.L.D. E.

Rh. Isld. Coll.

Rev. James Manning A.M. B.

<sup>1</sup> The Rev. Stephen West (Y. C. 1755) published two pamphlets on this subject, in 1779 and 1780.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Samuel J. Mills (Y. C. 1764).



M<sup>r</sup> Holyoke was the polite Gentleman, of a noble commanding presence, & moderated at Commencements with great Dignity. He was perfectly acquainted with academic Matters. Of a good degree of Literature both in Languages & Sciences, particularly in mathematical-mechanic Philosophy. Yet was not of great Erudition. Qualified however exceeding<sup>y</sup> well for the Presidency of a College, especially as he had a good Spirit of Government ; which was partly natural to him, partly acquired from President Leverett who ruled and governed with great Dignity.

D<sup>r</sup> Locke was scarcely equal to M<sup>r</sup> Holyoke in classical Knowledge but much superior to him in the Sciences, and in Penetration Judgment & Strength of mind. He was excellent & amiable in Government, tho' he did not equal the Dignity of his Predecessor. And yet he was a greater Literary Character. I have heard both moderate at Commencements : Just entered into the Career of Glory his Sun went into an Eclipse.<sup>1</sup>

D<sup>r</sup> Langdon's Lit<sup>y</sup> Character similar to Presid<sup>t</sup> Holyoke's.

M<sup>r</sup> Rector Williams was a good classical Scholar, well versed in Logic, Metaph. & Ethics, & in Rhetoric & Oratory. He presided at Commencement with great Honor—he spoke Latin freely and delivered Orations gracefully & with animated Dignity. While a Boy I heard him make his Valedictory Oration at the Commencement 1739 when he resigned the Chair. He was a Man of Splendor !

M<sup>r</sup> Clap tho no classical Scholar, was however of a stronger Mind than M<sup>r</sup> Williams and surpassed him (as well as all the Presidents in Harv. Coll. & in all American Colleges) in *Mathematics*, *Philosophy*, and *Astronomy*. His reas<sup>e</sup> powers were good and well improved. He had a singular Talent with little Read<sup>g</sup> of gain<sup>g</sup> great Knowledge, & became at length acquainted with almost every subject in the whole Circle of Literature. Had he been possessed of Politeness he would have figured as one of the Lights, one of the first Literary Char. of the age. He was not boisterous or noysy, but still quiet contemplative determined resolute firm immoveable—even to absolute Depotism. Not properly haughty, but *sic volo sic jubeo* was inwrot in his Make. This rendered the latter part of his Presidency uncomfortable. He was very strenuous for Orthodoxy : and had he been a Cardinal or a Pontiff he would have supported it with the Inquisition & Arms [not from Passion or exaggeration but calm sedate Judgment] : He was indefatigable in Labors both

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, Dec. 20, 1773.

secular & scientific for the good of the College ; the one in build<sup>e</sup> a new College Edifice and Chapel of Brick—the other in frequent public Dissertations upon all kinds of Literature. As to his person he was not tall, yet being thickset he appeared rather large & bulky. His Aspect light placid serene & contemplative. He was a calm still judicious great Man.

I do not recollect to have seen President Dickinson of Jersey College. But as I well remember the first begin<sup>e</sup> of that College (1746), so his Character is familiar with me. He was a venerable a great Divine, but not much of a Scholar.

President Burr I was *intimately* acquainted with, being Tutor at Yale College dur<sup>e</sup> his Presid<sup>y</sup> at Nassau. I have heard him moderate at the Commencement at Newark 1754. He was a little small Man as to body, but of great and well improved Mind. Elected President &c. 1748. He was a hard Student. A good classical Scholar in the 3 learned Tongues:—was well studied in Logic, Rhet., Nat. & Mor. Phil., the belles Lettres, History, Divinity, & Politics. He was an excellent Divine & Preacher, pious & agreeable, facetious & sociable, the eminent Xtian & every way the worthy Man. Like St. Paul his bodily presence was mean & contemptible, but his mental presence charmed all his Acquaintance. He was an Hon. to his College & an Ornam<sup>t</sup> to the Repub. of Letters. He died at Princeton Sept. 24, 1757, æt. 42.

M<sup>r</sup> Edwards succeeded him—a great Divine—a good Linguist especially in Hebrew—a good Scholar, but not equal to M<sup>r</sup> Burr. He was well skilled in the Logic of Ramus & Burgersdisius, & the philosophy of Wendeline, but not in Mathematics & the Ratiocinia of the Newtonian Philosophy. A g<sup>t</sup> Metaphysician! He was rather adapted to a recluse contemplative serious Life, than to the Labors & Activity of the Head of a College. The Volatility of 100 youth would have disturbed his calm Quiet & made him unhappy. He was but 2 or 3 months in the Presidency & died of Inoculation for the smallpox, 1758.

Mr. Davis his successor I did not personally know. Ob. 1761 Febr'y.

D<sup>r</sup> Finley I knew. He was superior to M<sup>r</sup> Burr as a classical Scholar esp<sup>y</sup> in Latin & Greek. For the Sciences he was nothing extraordinary. He was a boisterous Preacher & fill'd his Sermons with too much Gall & Invective. Yet he labored to do good with great Sincerity. He was not studied in Divinity & moral Philosophy. Elected 1761.

D<sup>r</sup> Witherspoon (at present a Member of Congress) is said to be a good Classical Scholar. He is of a reasoning Make. His math. & phil. Learning not great. He is well read in *Divinity*, *History* & the *belles Lettres*. He has high Notions of Government & Subordination—has a warm heart for *Chh Gov<sup>t</sup>* and *civil Policy* and Dominion. Elected 1768 circa.

D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock educated under Rector Williams had a tolerable Acquaintance with the Classics, Watts' Logic & Rohault's Philosophy. His Scholarship was perhaps much the same as Presid<sup>t</sup> Davies's; but the latter infinitely surpassed him in English Composition. He was a singular Event D<sup>r</sup> Wheel. ris<sup>s</sup> to the figure he did, with such a small literary Furniture. He had much of the religious Politician in his Make. It is said that, amidst a great Zeal & Shew of Piety, he was very ambitious & haughty. And yet there was something *piously sweet amiable & engaging in his Manner*. He by a persever<sup>s</sup> Importunity & Address caught the Attention of the public to his favorite plan of an Indian School and an Eng. College: & by D<sup>r</sup> Whitaker & M<sup>r</sup> Occom solicited Benefactions in Brit. to be deposited with a Board there. From this Board he has had the address to draw 10 or £12,000 sterl<sup>s</sup> (all in their hands to be got) into America. It is all expended. And excepting in New Lands Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. is without Funds. It was intended that only the Interest sh<sup>d</sup> be annually spent, but the Fund itself is consumed. Tho this was primarily designed for Indians, yet the only Indian that has graduated there (Daniel Simons) was obliged to beg elsewhere towards supporting him the last year of his College Residence. The Doctor shews good Accounts well vouched for all this Expenditure. But it had probably been better to have left the Funds in the Hands of the London Board.

Provost Smith is a contemptible drunken Character! of tolerable academic general Knowledge. But immoral, haughty, irreligious & profane, *avaricious* and covetous, a consummate Hypocrite in *Religion & Politics*! I know him personally, tho I am not a Witness to his Immoralities.

D<sup>r</sup> Alison Rector of the Academy as well as Vice Provost of the College, *is the greatest Classical Scholar in America espec<sup>lly</sup> in Greek*. Not great in Math. & Phil. & Astron<sup>y</sup>—but in Ethics, History, and general Reading is a great Literary Character. I have had a long & intimate Acquaint<sup>a</sup> with him. [ob. Nov. 28 1779. Æ. 80 & supra.]



D<sup>r</sup> Cooper I have seen, but learn his Char. from others & from some of his whip-syllabub productions. I believe he is a pretty neat classical Scholar, and of a good taste for the belles Lettres, and the general novel & humorous Tristram Shandy Read<sup>s</sup> of the polite World. Has a trifling acquaintance with the Oriental Tongues, a very slight Insight into math. & nat. Phil. & Astronomy, not anything beyond what is taught to boys, petit Maitres & Ladies,—& level to the Capacities of those who have learned only the Elements of Arith. Algebra and Geometry. He has some Know. in Music. A strong & high Taste for Amusem<sup>t</sup> & Parties of Pleasure. He was an Oxonian & came over full of Contempt for Amer. Literature. He is a mighty advocate for the Chh. & the Amer. Episcopate. He has employed much of his Time writing in favor of the Court & Parliament & against us. He fled to the Enemy—left N. York—& is now seeking his Bread in England. Hopefully never to return to America.

M<sup>r</sup> Manning a Baptist Minister educated at Nassau Hall—was made a President of Rh. Isld. Baptist College when he was just come from College, I think middle Bachelor.<sup>1</sup> He was not made a Presd<sup>t</sup> for his Literature, but because he was a Baptist. He is of good natural Parts indifferently improved with a superficial general Knowledge of the Languages & Sciences. But he studies too little to make any Thing very great. He loves figure and Splendor, English Orations & Dramatic Entertainments at Commencements. However by the assistance of M<sup>r</sup> Hoël<sup>2</sup> he makes some good Scholars. He is for close Communion, and very biggotted.

I had almost forgotten 2 others, Rector Cutler & D<sup>r</sup> Johnson with both of whom I had a personal Acquaintance.

Rector Cutler was an excellent Linguist—he was a great Hebrician & Orientalist. He had more Know. of the *Arabic* than I believe any man ever in N. England before him, except President Chauncy and his Disciple the first M<sup>r</sup> Thatcher. D<sup>r</sup> Cutler was a good Logician, Geographer, & Rhetorician. In the Philosophy & Metaphysics & Ethics of his Day or juvenile Educ<sup>a</sup> he was great. He spoke Latin with Fluency & Dignity & with great

<sup>1</sup> He took his first degree in 1762, and was appointed President in September, 1765, i. e., when Senior Bachelor (the term Middle Bachelor designating the second and middle year between the Bachelor's and Master's degree, and Senior Bachelor the next following year).

<sup>2</sup> David Howell, the first Professor (of Natural Philosophy) in Brown University.

Propriety of Pronunciation. He was a noble Latin Orator—as I learned from my Father who was educated under him. From him & Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Edwards of Windsor my Father (an excellent Latinist) learned to pronounce Latin ; & I from my Father, who often called me when a boy to hear him read Latin like D<sup>r</sup> Cutler. He was of a commanding Presence & Dignity in Government. He was a man of extensive Read<sup>g</sup> in the academic Sciences, Divinity & Ecc. History. He was of an high, lofty & despotic mien. He made a grand Figure as the Head of a College. But his Head being at length turned with the Splendor of Prelacy, & carried away with the fond Enterprize of Episcopizing all N. England, he in 1722 turned Chhman, left his Rectorate of Yale College and went to Engl<sup>d</sup>, and was reordained by the Bp of Norwich, and was honored with the Doctorate in Div<sup>y</sup> from Oxf<sup>d</sup> & Cambridge. Returning he settled in Boston. But failed of that Influence & Eminence which he figured to himself in prospect.

D<sup>r</sup> Johnson a Convert to the Chh who went to England at the same Time with D<sup>r</sup> Cutler, 1723, after about 30 y. Ministry became Presid<sup>t</sup> of Kings College N. York. He was an excellent Classical Scholar—he had few equals in *Lat. Greek & hebrew*. He was the Gentleman & the Scholar & of amiable Manners. Not of the deepest Penetration & Judgment, but of multiform & extensive Reading. He did not figure greatly as a President, but it does not seem to have been for want of Learning. He was good at the Sciences, easy & communicative, was eminent in moral Philosophy and wrote Noëtica & a System of Ethics, as well as in the literary Way a Technological System of Universal Literature. D<sup>r</sup> Cutler & D<sup>r</sup> Johnson were Men of Sobriety & of good Morals.

There were nine Presidents and one V. President in Harvard Coll. prior to Presid<sup>t</sup> Holyoke : of which Chauncy, Oakes, and Leverett were the capital & distinguished Literary Characters—altho' they were all Men of good Literature, & all but Eaton of excellent Characters. Dunstar & Hoar were learned next to Chauncy &c. Rogers, Mather & Wadsw. were the least ; but all did worthily.

DIPLOMA—YAL. COLL. AT MY ACCESSION 1778.

Praeses & Socii Collegii Yalensis Novo Portu Connecticuttensium.

Omnibus has Literas perlecturis Salutem in Domino sempiternam. Notum sit qu<sup>d</sup> D. Simeonem Newell Gradus secundi Candidatum Examine usitato probatum, Praeses è Sociorum publicis assidentium Comitibus Assensu, Titulo

Graduque Artium liberalium Magistri pro Meritis decoravit : & ei fruenda dedit omnia Jura Privilegia Dignitates et Honores ad eundem Gradum secundum Jura Humanitatis erga Literatos ubique Terrarum pertinentia. Cujus Rei Sigillum Academiæ Nominaque nostra subscripta Testimonio sint.

Datum ex Ædibus academicis

EZRA STILES S. T. D. Praeses.

Sept. 9<sup>mo</sup> Anno Salutis 1778<sup>vo</sup>

Annoque Reip. Amer. 3<sup>tio</sup>

ELIPH<sup>r</sup> WILLIAMS,

WARHAMUS WILLIAMS,

STEPHANUS JOHNSON,

NATH<sup>l</sup> TAYLOR,

ELIZUR GOODRICH,

SA<sup>l</sup> LOCKWOOD,

TIMOTHEUS PITKIN.

Socii.

25. . . . After several days gentle but abundant Rain yesterday was mild, pleasant, hot & growing. The Therm° 88½; warm hot night. This Morn<sup>g</sup> a spongy vegetable substance was shot up in the yard, being a Bonnet or flower of 5 Inch. Diam. of the figure of a Bell, supported by a white Perpend. cylindrical Stem eleven Inches high & 4/10 Inc. Diam. I put it in my Study & by noon it began to dissolve & drop in a black Liquid . . .

26. . . . M<sup>r</sup> Shipman yes<sup>ty</sup> gave 14 paper Doll. for 1 Silver Doll. and sold 1 silver Doll. for 16 paper Dollars.

27. President Wheelock died at Dresden, Dart. Coll. 24 Apr. æt. 69. He in his Will & accord<sup>g</sup> to Charter designated for his Successor, his son Col. John Wheelock ; & in case of failure, Rev. Joseph Huntington of Coventry ; & in Case of his failure Rev. Silvanus Ripley a Tutor in that College.

A. D.

# MEMOIRS OF D<sup>r</sup> WHEELOCK.

1710 circa. Born at Windham in Connecticut. Son of Deacon Wheelock.

1733. Graduated A.B. at Yale College, where he was educated under Rector Williams ; and was the first Dean Scholar on the Berkeleian Foundation.

1735. Ordained Pastor of the 2<sup>d</sup> Chh. in Lebanon in Connect. where he continued in the Ministry 35 years, till 1770.

1741. Exceedingly zealous in preaching the Gospel.

1745 circa. Took his first Indian Boy Samson Occom under his Care. This the beginning of turning his Zeal to the Indian Affairs.

1754. Began in earnest his Indian Charity School at Lebanon. He obtained Indian Lads, solicited Contributions & Donations:



- but the Thing labored hard for many years. About 1760 or 1764 he prevailed upon sundry neighbor<sup>s</sup> Ministers to stand as a voluntary Board of Trustees to receive & superintend the Distribution of Monies for the School. At length M<sup>r</sup> Occom becoming a preacher & being ordained, he about the year 1766 sent the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Whitaker & the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Occom to Europe to solicit Benefactions, with Powers to constitute a Board of Trust in Eng<sup>l</sup> (or however to transact fully in the Name of the School) to receive Contributions for the Use of the Indian School. They collected 10 or £12,000 sterl<sup>s</sup> lodged in the Hands of the Trust in England.
1767. Received the Degree of Doctor in Divinity by Diploma from the University of Edinburgh dated June 29, 1767, Æ. 57. Having such Success in Funds, he immed<sup>y</sup> began to think of a Charter of Incorporation for his Indian School. And as it was necessary to have English Ministers with Ind. Min<sup>rs</sup> & Schoolmasters, he judged it expedient that the School should have all the Advantages & Powers for Liberal Education—especially as he now began to be discouraged about the Indians. He determined thereupon to turn the School into a College, & make the place of erecting it to procure additional Funds. He was bid high in Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & N. York especially up Mohawk River. But the Subscriptions ran highest in the Hampshire new Towns both as to Lands &c. to the College, & Donations to the Doctor for his own private Encouragement. This with the Offer of an ample Charter determined him for Hanover on Connecticut River.
1769. Dec. 13. Obtained of Gov. Wentworth of N. Hampshire a Charter in which he was constituted President of Dartmouth College, the name he gave to his School after the Earl of Dartmouth at the Head of the Board in London.
1770. Resigned the Ministry at Lebanon. Removed & built the College Edifice at Hanover. His<sup>d</sup> Draughts on the Funds in England for Ind<sup>n</sup> Missions, build<sup>s</sup> the College, & cultivating College Lands entirely exhausted the Funds by 1777 or in the first ten years.
1779. April 24. The Rev. President Wheelock died at Dresden, Dartm<sup>o</sup> College Æ. 69. He was impowered by Indenture of the Trust in England and by Charter to appoint his Succes-

sor ; accordingly he designated Col. John Wheelock his Son ; and in Case of his Failure the Rev. Joseph Huntington of Coventry ; and in case of his Failure the Rev. Sylvanus Ripley his Son in Law. He left the College in the hands of three of his Sons Tutors, constituting one of them President. Of the 12 Trustees two were his Sons in Law, viz. Mr. Woodward, & Mr. Ripley, who were both Trustees & Tutors. The Rev. Eden Burroughs preached upon Job xiv, 14, at his Funeral which was attended on monday 26<sup>th</sup> April. Such a mixture of apparent Piety & eminent Holiness, together with the Love of Riches Dominion & Family Aggrandizement, is seldom seen. He was certainly as singular a Character as that of Ignatius Loyola. I was personally acquainted with him, and thought him a sincere Friend of the divine Emmanuel.

29. This day four years ago died my dear wife, never to be forgotten.

30. Ldsday. I kept Sabb. at N<sup>o</sup> Stratf<sup>d</sup> and preached for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Beebee on Rom. iii, 23-25. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Birdsey my worthy & venerable Friend visited me æt. 66.<sup>1</sup>

31. Rode to Stratford, and thence to Milford, visited Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Sherman & lodged at Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Wales. Exam<sup>s</sup> some of Rector Andrews Mss. In his Letter dated Milford, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1719, he says "*M<sup>r</sup> Cutler was chosen to be the settled Rector of Yale Colledge at New Haven by all the Trustees present last Week ; and the Town of Stratford will be treated with to allow of his Removal from them. The General Court ended last Week ; and the major part of the Lower House have acquitted M<sup>r</sup> Woodbridge to the great Dissatisfaction of the upper house, and many in the lower house. The faction against the Governor grows rather stronger. This Court hath allowed to the College fourty pound more per annum for seven years.—Samuel Andrew.*"

## June

1. Vacation ended. I attended even<sup>s</sup> prayers in the Chapel and set up College Orders.

Early this Morn<sup>s</sup> great Firing or Canonading was heard as being westward. Towds Eveng. came into New Haven Major —— an

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, Oct. 22, 1774. He lived to complete his 103d year.

Express from Danb<sup>r</sup>—says the En<sup>r</sup> up N<sup>o</sup> River—alarm was given about midnight last Night in one hour from Fishkill to Fairfield—that the En<sup>r</sup>. have attacked Ft. Arnold, at Westpoint. A general March of Forces Militia & Continental.

2. . . Attended Mr. Whittelsey's Sacr't. Lect. Dr. Dana preached. . . . .

3. About 30 Students present. All the Militia of Fairfield County marched for Fishkill &c. Attended M<sup>r</sup> Edwds' Lecture.

Received from the aged & venerable D<sup>r</sup> Stephen Williams' the Harvard printed Theses of Commencement 1713 & 1719; also the printed Masters Questions of 1712, 1713, 1717, 1719; also the Diploma of his Doctorate 1773.

Received from the venerable D<sup>r</sup> Lord his Diplomas 1714 and 1719, with an Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Course of Liberal Education in this College in its early Days.<sup>2</sup> He says Rector Andrew always presided at Commencements which were always in the Meet<sup>g</sup> house—in giving Degrees delivered the Book but no Diplomas, & did not use pro More Acad. in Anglia. The first printed Thesis & Catalogue 1714 both on one small sheet printed at Boston under Correction of D<sup>r</sup> Cotton Mather.

4. Very hot. Th. 88. No certain news from N<sup>o</sup> River.

6. Ldsdy At Mt. Carmel. I preached A.M. Cant. ii, 2, 3, and admitted M<sup>rs</sup> Dickerman into full Communion with that Chh. Then I administered the Sacrament of the Lds Supper there to the Church. I began Exercise  $\frac{1}{4}$  after X & ended at a quarter before II P.M. At III P.M. I preached on Mat. vii. 21. Returned in the Even<sup>g</sup> & found at my House the Hon. Henry Marchant a Delegate from Rh. Isld on his Way to Congress. We sat up till after Midnight. He estimates the En<sup>r</sup> 7000 at Newport, 4000 Carolina, 2000 Virginia & 10,000 N. York. Those from Virginia are returned & have joyned & gone up the North River.

7. A fine growing Season. We hear noth<sup>g</sup> from N<sup>o</sup> River. The Seniors disputed, Jus Regum non est Jure divino hæreditarium. I

<sup>1</sup> A graduate of Harvard in 1713; pastor in Longmeadow, Mass., from 1716 to his death in 1782. One of his sons, Warham Williams, was a member of the Yale Corporation.

<sup>2</sup> This interesting letter from the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Lord (Y. C. 1714), of Norwich, Conn., is printed in Dexter's *Yale Biographies & Annals*, i, 115-16. The diplomas referred to are preserved in the University Library,—that of 1719 (for the M.A. degree) being peculiar in being engrossed on paper, not parchment.



have the Freshmen in Tutor Baldwins Absence: this day I have attended four Recitations.

8. The Seniors disputed forensically, Whether the Arian Idea of the Divinity of J. C. or the Athanasian be the most Scriptural?

On the 18<sup>th</sup> ult. the ecclesiastical Council at Stockbridge had a second Session<sup>1</sup> upon the important & very momentous Question whether *a Chh Member may marry one that is not Chh Member?* or whether "a believing Widow in full Communion may marry a Man of scandalous Immorality?" or whether Christians may marry only *in the Lord?* not whether to be separated in such Cases, but whether the Woman (in the given Instance at Stockbridge) is censurable? Child. obey your Parents *in the Ld.*:—must they not be obeyed, if they are not in the Lord?

9. The Rev<sup>d</sup> James Fitch first Minister of Norwich had a private but very Learned Education: he was never graduated at College, Harvard Coll. being then in obscure Infancy. There were about a dozen Ministers in early times who received their education inter privatos parietes, & yet were among the most learned, as M<sup>r</sup> Thatcher<sup>2</sup> a Disciple of M<sup>r</sup> Chauncy while he lived at Scituate &c. Sometimes these afterw<sup>d</sup> received the academic Honors as the M<sup>r</sup> Noyes's<sup>3</sup> 1659, M<sup>r</sup> Edw<sup>d</sup><sup>4</sup> 1691, and M<sup>r</sup> Fitch 1694, son of M<sup>r</sup> Fitch of Norwich & afterwards Minister at Portsmouth.

10. Professor Strong absent & so no Math. Lect. yesterday. This Afternoon I omitted my Lect. on Ecc. History. And the Professor of Divinity D<sup>r</sup> Dagget delivered a public Lecture *è Cathedra* in the Chapel, upon the *Proof of the Exist. of Gd à priori*. He has been Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> in the Coll. for 24 years, preached constantly in Chapel on Ldsdys, but never before delivered a Theological Lect. on a Weekday.

Epitaphium Rev. Dom. Jac. Fitch, inscriptum in Lapidem ad Tumulum illius Confiniis sive Colliminio Lebanonis seu Libani et Norvici Connecticutensis positum; nuperque ad Rogationem meam à D. Tutore Robinson desumptum.

"In hoc Sepulchro depositæ sunt Reliquiæ Viri vere reverendi D. Jacobi Fitch D.D. Natus fuit apud Bocking in comitatu Essexiæ in Anglia Anno Domini 1622 Decemb. 24. Qui postquam Linguis et Literis optime instructus fuisset, in Novangliam venit ætat. 16, et deinde vitam degit Hartfordiæ per Septennium sub Institutione Virorum celeberrimorum D. Hooker et D. Stone.

<sup>1</sup> See above, May 22.

<sup>2</sup> See above, April 21, 1779.

<sup>3</sup> The two brothers, James and Moses, both early Trustees of Yale College.

<sup>4</sup> Timothy Edwards, father of Jonathan Edwards.

Postea munere pastorali functus est apud Saybrook per annos 14. Illinc cum Ecclesiæ majori parte Norvicem migravit, et ibi ceteros vitæ annos transegit in opere evangelico. In Senectute vero præ corporis infirmitate necessario cessabat ab opere publico, tandemque recessit Liberis apud Lebanon, ubi semi-anno ferè exacto obdormivit in Jesu Anno 1702 Novemb. 18 ætat. 80. Vir Ingenii acumine, pondere judicii, prudentia, charitate sancta, Laboribus, et omnimoda Vitæ Sanctitate, peritia quoque et Vi concionandi nulli secundus."

1638 or 1639, æ. 16, came over to N. England.

1645 or 1646, ord. at Saybrook, a little before M<sup>r</sup> Hookers death. Ordained by Lay Brethren by direction of M<sup>r</sup> Hooker who was present. Rev<sup>d</sup> Thos. Hooker ob. July 7, 1647, æ. 61.

1660 Removed to Norwich.

12. . . . M<sup>r</sup> Shipman offered me Wilton Cloth at 2 Doll. silver per yard & 30 Doll. Continental. A Coat 90 Doll. Contin. & yet only 6 D<sup>o</sup> silver.

13. Ldsdy. Attended in the Chapel. Professor Dagget preached A.M. Isai. lvii, 15, upon the *Eternity* of God: P.M. James i, 17, on the Immutability of God. Two excellent sermons. Reading *Plotinus* with the Illustrations of Marsilius Ficinus, and also *Lactantius*, the Cicero of the Fathers.

14. An Address of Congress was by Order of Authority read publickly yesterd<sup>y</sup> thro' in the Chhs. in this State. This Morning I appointed for July Examination of the Senior Class.

Russel to make a Cliosophic Oration.

Whitman an Eng. Orat. on the belles Lettres.

Goodrich a Valedictory Oration in Latin.

|        |   |                      |
|--------|---|----------------------|
| Austin | } | an Eng. Disputation. |
| Ely    |   |                      |

|                    |   |             |
|--------------------|---|-------------|
| Johnson            | } | a Dialogue. |
| Pitkin             |   |             |
| Towns <sup>d</sup> |   |             |
| Welles             |   |             |

The Seniors disputed syllogistically, Russel Respondent—An Opera bona sint ad Salutem necessaria?

15. I gave Leave of Absence to Woodruff a Freshman till 1 Aug. & put him under the Tuition of M<sup>r</sup> Lankton<sup>1</sup> of Southington. I have given D<sup>o</sup> to sundry Undergraduates lately on acc<sup>o</sup> of the Difficulty their parents find in support<sup>g</sup> them here, Depretiation of Money being 15 for 1 compared with silver, & Prices of Wheat &

<sup>1</sup> Levi Lankton (Yale 1777).

provision nearly double in silver or hard mony to what it was formerly. Indulgence seems necessary. This Afternoon Mess<sup>rs</sup> Trumbull, W<sup>ms</sup>, Goodrich, Committee of the Corporation came here & settled the Price of Commons 26 Doll per Week. Tuition 20/ L. M. at £18 per Q<sup>r</sup>.

16. Quarter day at College. Public Exercises, thus :  
In Afternoon at III<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>h</sup> P.M.

Perkins . . . . . Latin Oration.

An Anthem.

Hinkly, Smith, Parmele . . . Dialogue.

Baldwin . . . . . Eng. Orator.

An Anthem.

The State of College as to those present & abs. Undergraduates.

|         |   |   |         |   |   |            |
|---------|---|---|---------|---|---|------------|
| Seniors | . | . | 12 abs. | . | . | 19 present |
|---------|---|---|---------|---|---|------------|

|         |   |   |    |   |   |    |
|---------|---|---|----|---|---|----|
| Juniors | . | . | 10 | . | . | 22 |
|---------|---|---|----|---|---|----|

|       |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Soph. | . | . | 2 | . | . | 25 |
|-------|---|---|---|---|---|----|

|        |   |   |    |   |   |    |
|--------|---|---|----|---|---|----|
| Fresh. | . | . | 12 | . | . | 18 |
|--------|---|---|----|---|---|----|

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|    |  |            |
|----|--|------------|
| 36 |  | 84 present |
|----|--|------------|

|  |           |
|--|-----------|
|  | 36 absent |
|--|-----------|

|       |        |
|-------|--------|
| <hr/> |        |
| 120   | Total. |

17. No Lecture to day nor yesterday. Mr. Tutor Baldwin this day heard the Freshmen recite for the last Time, and resigned the Tutorship. A very excellent & worthy Man. I thereupon wrote the Follow<sup>g</sup> Lett. to M<sup>r</sup> Lockwood, Tutor Elect.

D<sup>r</sup> SIR.

Y. C. June 17, 1779.

M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Bald<sup>n</sup> hav<sup>g</sup> this day resigned his Office in this Coll. there is a Vacancy in the Tutorship. And as you Sir have been duly elected to the same office, this waits upon you request<sup>g</sup> your Accept<sup>a</sup> of the Choice. We hope it will be agreeable to you to take part with us in the Instruction of youth in Accad. Literature. I take upon myself at present the Instruction of the Freshman Class. As soon as your Convenience will permit I shall be happy in comit<sup>g</sup> them to your Care. I am D<sup>r</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> most obed<sup>t</sup> serv<sup>t</sup>

M<sup>r</sup> William Lockwood.

EZRA STILES.

18. The Senior Class finished Locke on Hum. Und. V. 2 and I ordered them to study President Claps Ethics. I dismissed Mumford 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. his Father remov<sup>g</sup> to N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> and Smith 2 to day on acco<sup>t</sup> of Destress of Times.



19. We have had repeated Reports for 8 or 10 days of a Victory at Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Carolina ; founded on advice by a Vessel which left New Providence 19<sup>th</sup> May & arrived at Philad<sup>a</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> May. The Post this Day brings the Fishkill paper of last Thursday containing several Letters confirming the same Advice . . . . .

20. Ldsdy. Attended divine Service in the Chapel, where A.M. the Professor preached on the divine Omnipresence & Immensity Ps. cxxxix, 7-9. P.M. Rev. xix, 6, on the divine Omnipotence.

21. Syllogistic Disput<sup>a</sup> Seymour Respondent—Nullæ dantur Ideæ innatæ. . . . .

22. Question disputed by the Senior Class, Whether a private was to be preferred to a public Education?

This day M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Baldwin left College ætat. 24, and returned to the Army as Chaplain to Gen. Parsons Brigade.

23. The Library of Yale College consists of about three Thous<sup>d</sup> Volumes ; of which three Quarters have been removed to Northford, Durham, & Westbury,<sup>1</sup> to be out of the Way of the Enemy. I find there still remain a Thous<sup>d</sup> Volumes in the Library Room. The Air pump, Apparatus, & Musæum still here. The substance of our Apparatus is

President Claps Planetarium<sup>2</sup> about 7 feet Diam.

M<sup>r</sup> D<sup>o</sup> exhibiting the Astron. Movements by Mechanism.

M<sup>r</sup> Austins<sup>3</sup> D<sup>o</sup> in Wires about 3½ Diam.

M<sup>r</sup> Williams' Cometarium ; M<sup>r</sup> Austins Lunarium.

Air pump, Hydrost<sup>a</sup> Ballance, Barometer, Sextant.

Prism, Specula sphero-concave & plano-concave.

Microscope ; Telescope a Reflector ; Theodolite.

M<sup>r</sup> Clap's Comet of 1744.

Hadly's Quadrant, 2 pair Globes.<sup>4</sup>

Brass D<sup>o</sup> Astronomical.<sup>5</sup>

Small Electrical apparatus.<sup>6</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Now Watertown.

<sup>2</sup> A description, by Chauncey Whittelsey, then Tutor, of the Orrery or Planetarium lately made by Rector Clap, was printed in the *American Magazine* for January, 1744.

<sup>3</sup> Punderson Austin (Y. C. 1762). See this Diary, April 17, 1773.

<sup>4</sup> A pair of globes was given by the Rev. Dr. Watts in 1738.

<sup>5</sup> Given by Christopher Kilby, of London, in 1757.

<sup>6</sup> "An electrical instrument" was given by Gen. Philip Schuyler, of Albany, in 1763.

Compleat sett of Surveying Instruments.<sup>1</sup>

Paintings of the human body skin'd. Anatomical.

Human Skeleton.

A portable Sextant about 5 feet Radius.

This Morning the Hon. Samuel Adams Esq. accompanied with D<sup>r</sup> Foster<sup>2</sup> Head of the Eastern medical Department, came to Town. I breakfasted with them. He left Congress 15<sup>th</sup> Instant. By him and by a Letter from M<sup>r</sup> March<sup>t</sup> of 14<sup>th</sup> I find Congress had not then received Official acco<sup>ts</sup> of the Defeat of the Brit. Army before Charlestown. M<sup>r</sup> Adams shewed me & referred me to private Letters of undoubted Authority ascertaining that important Fact. Congress has dismissed all their Commiss<sup>rs</sup> in Europe except D<sup>r</sup> Franklin & D<sup>r</sup> Lee, one at Paris & the other at Madrid. They have sent an Embassy of 5 to Vermont.

24. Yesterday I attended Professor Strong's Math. Lecture. This Aft. I delivered my Lect. eccl. History upon Councils . . . .

Yesterday I put the Senior Class into President Claps Ethics or Moral Philosophy. It was printed just before his death, and has been sometimes recited by the Classes. Afterwds President Edw<sup>ds</sup> on the Will was recited: this giving Offence was dropped. And thro' the Confusion of Times the Seniors have recited no Ethics for several years. When I was Undergraduate we recited Wollastons Religion &c delineated. When my Father was in Coll. they recited Mori Eucheridion Ethicum.

27. Ldsdy. Professor Daggett preached in the Chapel all day upon the Attribute of divine *Omniscience* from Heb. iv, 13, At Evening Prayers in the Chapel one of the Seniors read in D<sup>r</sup> Dodderidges Sermons. Every Ldsdy Even<sup>g</sup> one of the Bachelors or Senior Sophisters reads a Sermon or part of a Sermon in the Chapel before prayer.

28. The Seniors disputed Philautia non est summum Principium agendi. Friday 18<sup>th</sup> Inst. a new & very public Exam<sup>a</sup> of the Candidates for the Deg. of A.B. was celebrated at Harvard College—at least Exam. was attended in an uncommon Manner. The Corporation & Overseers were present on the Occasion. In the Afternoon there was a Procession to the Meetinghouse, when President Langdon began with prayer & then delivered a Latin Oration: there followed a salutatory Oration, a forensic Dispute,

<sup>1</sup> Given by Joseph Thompson, of London, in 1734.

<sup>2</sup> Isaac Foster (Harvard 1758).

Syllogistic Disputes in Latin on 2 questions, an Hebrew Oration, a Dialogue, an Anthem. These were all the academic Exercises of Commencement except conferring Degrees upon the Candidates. Yet the Corpor<sup>a</sup> with Consent of the Overseers conferred the Doctorate of Laws upon Major Gen. Gates, and the French Consul residing at Boston.

29. Very hot. Ther<sup>o</sup> 94½ in N<sup>o</sup> Shade. The Seniors forensic Disputation, *Whether the Apocrypha is inspired!* M<sup>r</sup> Lockwood Tutor Elect came into Town this Afternoon. This Evening I examined him as to his Orthodoxy, Messrs Tutors Robinson & Atwater only being present—the Professors absent.

30. At Morning Prayers in the Chapel M<sup>r</sup> William Lockwood gave his Consent to the Confession of Faith, and took the *Oath of Fidelity* to this State; and thereupon I declared him invested with the Office of a Tutor in this College, and committed to him the Tuition and Government of the Freshmen Class, and the general Superintendency & Government of this College. This Month the Freshmen have recited Hebrew to me. I began with the Alphabet & carried the whole Class thro' more or less accord<sup>s</sup> to their Arrivals. I divided them into 2 parts—one have recited the first & part of the 2<sup>d</sup> psalm; the other & principal part have finished translating the seven first psalms and parsed the first & part of the 2<sup>d</sup> psalm. I do not find that any Class have been carried thro' half so much these many years. M<sup>r</sup> Rob. & M<sup>r</sup> Atwater were qualified Tutors last year by only giv<sup>g</sup> their Consent &c, but the Oath of Fidelity was not administered to them, because it was doubted whether any but a President could administer it.

At II P M I attended M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup>'s Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lecture. He preached from Deut.—At V<sup>h</sup> attended Professor Strong's Lecture on the *Tides*.

## July

1. Read my Eccl. Lect. on the Schools of the Chh. Exchange 1 Silver for 18 Continent. Dollars. Veal 4/6 per pound. Butter 12/. Tow Cloth 8 Doll. per yard. Ind. Corn & Rye 15 doll. per Bush. Cont. Pork £90 per Bb. Coffee 3 Doll. per lb. Tea 26 & 30 Doll. per lb. Labour 15 Doll. per day. Wood 14 Doll. per Load.

3. A Man in this Town, who was in Charles<sup>to</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> at the Attack & Repulse of the En<sup>y</sup>. And yet Congress have had no



official Accounts—owing it is said to the Tories in Virginia having robbed the Express.

4. Ldsdy. A M. the Professor preached on Rom i, 16. all day. Attended the L<sup>ds</sup> Supper, present eleven, Professor, 2 Tutors, myself & seven undergraduates. After singing M<sup>r</sup> Professor Dagget the Pastor of the Chh desired me, & I accordingly made a concluding prayer and gave the Blessing. After Sermon, Cook a Senior Sophister was admitted into full Communion, according to the following Formula draughted by President Clap.

#### CHH COVENANT.

“You do in the presence of G<sup>d</sup> & before this Assembly, declare your Belief of the holy Scriptures as being given by Divine Inspiration, and of all the Doctrines therein contained as professed in our Chhs: and do accordingly avouch the Ld Jehovah, the only true & living G<sup>d</sup> to be your God; and do give up yourself to G<sup>d</sup> the Father as your Creator, to G<sup>d</sup> the Son as your Redeemer, & to G<sup>d</sup> the holy Ghost as your Sanctifier. And do promise by the Help & Assistance of divine Grace to walk in a holy Obedience & Subjection to all the Laws and Commandments of X; and to attend upon & be subject to all the ordinances & Institutions of the Gospel, and particularly in this Church.”

You do thus profess & promise.

“We then receive you into our christian Communion & Fellowship and will endeavor by the Help of divine Grace to conduct towards you as a Member of this Chh. according to the Rules of the Gospel.”

Copied from the Original.

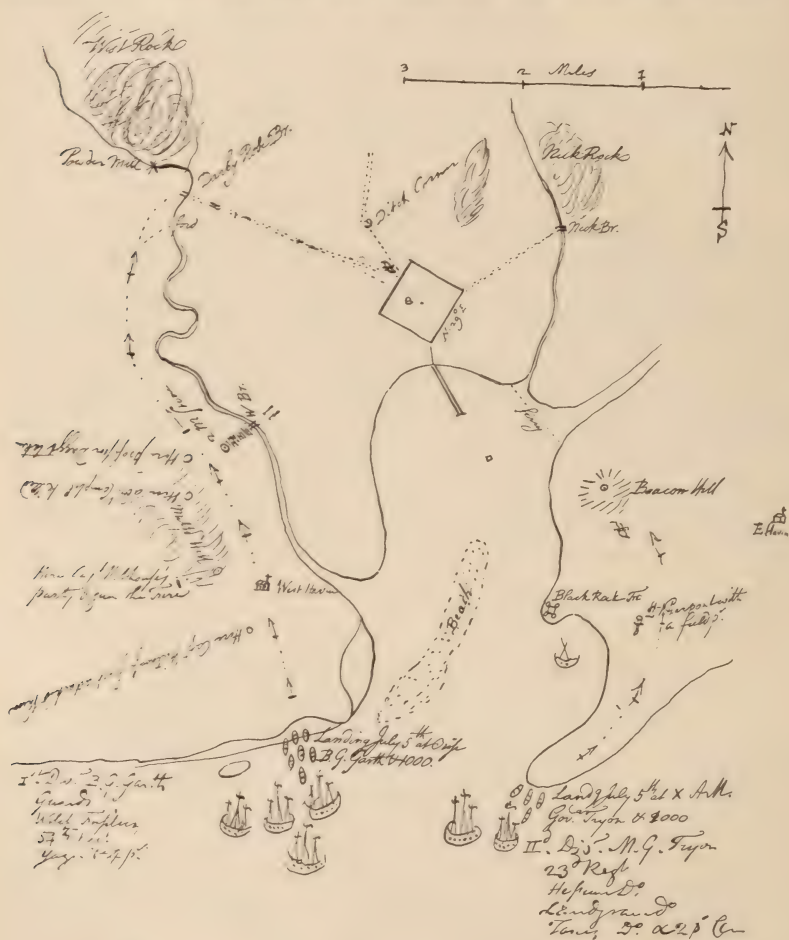
#### NEW HAVEN TAKEN BY THE ENEMY.<sup>1</sup>

The next morning, after the above entries, we were thrown into great Destress by the Approach of the Enemy in a Fleet of about fourty Sail. I sent my Children, the College Records & Papers, & my own MSS. and papers out of Town, before the En<sup>y</sup> reached the Town. I did not bring back this diary until Aug. 9<sup>th</sup>. I purpose to catch a few leisure moments to note some Occurrences of the time elapsed from 5<sup>th</sup> July the day of the Enemy's Landing to this time.

About II o'clock Monday Morning July 5<sup>th</sup> the Fleet of about 38 or fourty sail, under Comm<sup>d</sup> of Sir Geo Collyer, anchored off West Haven, Alarm Guns were fired, and L<sup>t</sup> Col. Sabin of the Militia ordered to beat to Arms.

<sup>1</sup>This invasion is the subject of an exhaustive monograph by Captain Charles H. Townshend, of New Haven, published in 1879.

A Lethargy seemed to have seized the Inhabitants, who would believe the fleet would pass by in the Morning. However some of us set about putting up & remov<sup>g</sup> Furniture. But all was Confusion. At Daylight we descried the Fleet, and with a



[Sketch, by Dr. Stiles, of the Invasion of New Haven.]

Telescope on the Top of the Tower of the College Steeple we plainly saw the Boats putt<sup>g</sup> off from the Shipping for Shore at five o'Clock Mane or a little after sunrise. All then knew our Fate. Perhaps one Third of the Adult male Inhab. flew to Arms & went out to meet them: a quarter removed out of T<sup>o</sup> doing nothing,







GEORGE WELLES

Captain of Students' Company at the Invasion of New Haven  
(with view of College buildings then standing)

*From water-color drawing by St. John Honeywood, in possession of  
Professor R. Pumpelly, Captain Welles's grandson*

the rest remained unmoved partly Tories partly timid Whigs. Sundry of the Tories armed & went forth. About 90 or an hundred Men finally stayed in T<sup>o</sup>.

The Numbers are very differently estimated. More generally considered as *Three Thous<sup>d</sup>* Troops, commanded by Major Gen. Tryon. There were but two Generals, Tryon & Garth. They had but Twenty sq<sup>r</sup> rigged vessels, Ships, Snows, Brigs, of which fifteen ships—others small, as Tenders Gallies &c. Gen. Glover marched thro' T<sup>o</sup> next Ldsdy with his Continental Brigade, which was judged by the staying Inhab. larger than G. Garth's Division and yet I was assured by a knowing Officer that this Corps did not exceed over a Thous<sup>d</sup> privates. I judge G. Garth's Division 6 or 800 in Column & 250 on each Flank=1200 at most. Tryons Division larger. And yet perhaps exclusive Marines the Total of both Divisions might be more truly estimated at Two Thous<sup>d</sup>. [Sir George Collier says 2600.]

At V<sup>h</sup> manè Gen. Garth's Div. landed at West Haven & marched to the Meetinghouse one Mile & formed upon a Green where they halted two Hours. About IX or X o'clock G. Tryon landed his Div. at 5 Mile Point. Both Divisions becoming engaged in their respective Operations at the same time.

Col. Sabin with 2 p<sup>s</sup> Art<sup>y</sup> & Volunteers went to W. Bridge; Cap<sup>t</sup> Hilhouse with 20 or 30 brave young Men;<sup>1</sup> together with many others crossed the Bridge over to Milford Hill & within 100 Rods or a Qr. Mile of the Meetingh. where the En<sup>y</sup> were paraded. Upon their begin<sup>s</sup> the march Cap<sup>t</sup> Hilh. fired upon the advanced Guard so as to drive them in to the main Body. But com<sup>s</sup> in force the En<sup>y</sup> proceeded. Others besides Hilh. party had by this time passed the Bridge & reached the Hill, to perhaps 150 Men; these kept up a galling fire on especially their out Guards extend<sup>s</sup> perhaps 40 or 50 Rods each side the Column. And yet the Column marched in a huddled Confusion in about 30 Comp<sup>a</sup> and three Divisions. They did not so much attend to strict Order as a general vigorous march.

On Milford Hill Adjutant Gen. Campbell of the En<sup>y</sup> was slain & left behind. Sundry were wounded. Near 2 M. Stone D<sup>r</sup> Dagget

<sup>1</sup> It is the uniform tradition that a company of Yale students assisted in the repulse of the British; and the sketch facing this page represents the Captain of that Company, then a member of the Senior Class. The sketch has a unique interest as showing on the left the three College buildings then standing.

Professor of Divinity was captivated. He discharged his piece and then submitted as Prisoner—they after this pierced & beat him with Bayonets & otherwise abused him, so that his Life was in danger for a month after. Also on our side John Hotchkiss A.M. was killed by the Enemy. Our Artillery at the Bridge, well served by Capt. Bradly, threw shot successfully across to Milford hill; & prevented the Enemy passing the Causey & so into T<sup>o</sup> that way. Thereupon they turn off & continued their rout round to Darby Bridge. As they came along our people divided—some recrossed the Bridge; others kept to the En<sup>ys</sup> Left & under the commd of Col. Burr (son of President Burr) harrassed the En<sup>ys</sup> March. At the Bridge Major —— & some Militia repulsed an Excursion of the En<sup>y</sup> towd the Powder Mill. The Light Troops of the Right Flank forded the River perhaps 20 Rods below the Bridge, while the Main Body crossed the Bridge. Upon their passing 2 M.Stone & it appear<sup>s</sup> evid<sup>t</sup> that they aimed round, Col. Sabin & the Field p<sup>s</sup> Cap<sup>t</sup> Hill. &c &c crossed the Fields with 2 p<sup>s</sup> to meet them at Darby Bridge. Here at Enemy's rising a Hill & tak<sup>g</sup> the Rode to T<sup>o</sup> we gave them a heavy fire and took a number of prisoners; also on the other side near the Mills we took a number. The northern Militia & those fr. Darby by this time crouded in & pressed on all Sides—& some behaved with amazing Intrepidity. One Captain drew up & threw himself & his whole Comp<sup>a</sup> directly before the Eny's Column & gave & received the Fire. We fought upon a Retreat into T<sup>o</sup>, just at the N.W. Entrance of which the Battle became very severe & bloody for a short time, when a number was killed on both sides. The Enemy however proceed<sup>s</sup> along in force entered the Town at fourty Minutes after XII or a little before one o'Clock, P.M.

From the first Entrance till VIII in the Eveng. the T<sup>o</sup> was given up to Ravage & Plunder, from which only a few Houses were protected. Besides what was carried off great Damage was done to Furniture &c left behind.

While these Things were transact<sup>s</sup> on this Side the Harbor, G. Tryon was pursuing his Desol<sup>a</sup> on the East side. Upon Landing he set Fire to M<sup>r</sup> Morris's elegant Seat. He was molested by the Fort on black rock 3 M. from Town, under the Comm<sup>d</sup> of L<sup>t</sup> Bishop, & also by a Field p<sup>s</sup> with the gallant L<sup>t</sup> Pierpont; at length the fort was evacuated. The Enemy reached Beacon Hill in the Afternoon. The En<sup>y</sup> pushed out almost to East Haven



Meetinghouse. But the Militia collect<sup>s</sup> in from every part & pressing upon them, the En<sup>y</sup> drew in nearer to Water. On the W. or T<sup>o</sup> side the Confluence of Militia accumulated chiefly at 3 places, at *Neck Bridge*<sup>1</sup> (which the En<sup>y</sup> had pulled up & retired), *Mill Lane* and *Ditch Corner*<sup>2</sup>—at this last place was incessant Fireing on both sides all the Afternoon & sundry were slain. At length the Fireing ceased on both sides in the Evening.

In the Afternoon of Monday, 28 large Boats came ashore from the shipping with about a Thousd Seamen to share in the plundering. But G. Garth absolutely forbid their Land<sup>s</sup> & sent them back all but six boats which landed—allegding that it would be dangerous should the Boats be left on the flats at low water.—Gov. Tryon kept chiefly on East side the harbor; he was however over on this side in the course of the Afternoon. Garth feared least his Men would become too drunk to remain safe on shore; & proposed to Tryon going on board that night; but Tryon refused it. The Troops were ordered to parade at one o'Clock next morning, and the Tories were notified of the Departure. Four Families (Mess<sup>rs</sup> *Chandler, Camp, Botsford* &c—)<sup>3</sup> accord<sup>y</sup> prepared & went off with them the next morning.

Tho' they began to draw in their outposts &c. & marched the main Body a little after sunrise of the Morning of 6<sup>th</sup> July, yet they left 150 to set fire to several stores on the Wharf & the Vessels; these resumed plundering while their Gallies kept up a Fire. The Shipping & stores were fired between VI & VII manè. At the Distance of three Miles North of the T<sup>o</sup> I espied this Conflagr<sup>a</sup> when we supposed the whole T<sup>o</sup> was destined to the Flames. But a merciful God ordered it otherwise.

A few of the Troops went directly to the Shipping—those fit for duty (for they had been very drunk) crossed the Ferry & joyned Gov. Tryon's Corps or Division on Beacon Hill half a mile from the Water. Gen. Ward of the Militia had commanded at Ditch-corner & indeed all around on Monday. On Tuesday Morning he entered the T<sup>o</sup> after it was evacuated, & then proceeded round to E. Haven where he took the Command of four Militia Reg<sup>ts</sup> now arrived viz Col. Cooks, Col. Russels, Col. Worthingtons, Col.

<sup>1</sup> Where State street crosses Mill River.

<sup>2</sup> Near the present intersection of Goffe and Orchard streets.

<sup>3</sup> Joshua Chandler was a graduate of Yale in 1747, as was his son-in-law Amos Botsford in 1763; the other person named was Abiathar Camp.

Sages, forming a Corps of perhaps 1000 Men besides as many more Spectators & Volunteers not under Command. This body together with the field pieces greatly disturbed the Enemy, till at length they quitted the Hill about Noon on Tuesday. We immed<sup>y</sup> took it & bro't our field pieces there; between which & the Gally at the Black Rock there was kept up an enlivening incessant and animated Fire all the Afternoon. Our Militia grew bold & adventurous & approached so close to the En<sup>y</sup> as to become very troublesome. B. Gen. Hart of the Militia had entered the T<sup>o</sup> and took the necess<sup>y</sup> measures there. The Galley fired at the Militia on the Wharves & Shore. In a word a vigorous incessant & heavy fire was kept up till sunset, when the En<sup>y</sup> fired the Barracks in the Fort and embarked & sailed Tuesday Even<sup>g</sup>. On Tuesday Morn<sup>g</sup> upon their cross<sup>g</sup> over the ferry, the En<sup>y</sup> displayed their Vengeance by setting fire to Houses, Barns & Stores in East Haven. On both sides the River or Harbor the amo<sup>t</sup> of their Conflagration was burning eight Dwelling Houses, six Stores, five or 6 Barns, Eight Vessels. The Total of Damage to the T<sup>o</sup> according to an Acc<sup>o</sup> rendered in to the Select Men is about *Twenty one Thousand pounds* L. M. old Way. When they came into T<sup>o</sup> the dead & wounded of the En<sup>y</sup> were carried down to the ships & thro' the Green in *seven Chairs & five Waggon*s in one of which waggons were ten Men, as I had it from one that lived at the Waterside and counted them. They killed of our people in Action twenty one, besides some that died of their Wounds, & besides two aged Men M<sup>r</sup> English & M<sup>r</sup> Beers whom they bayoneted in their Houses making no resistance. Their Barbarity was savage & cruel, if not without a parallel yet to the degree of the highest & most brutal Rigors of War.

At their Entrance into Town they dispersed a few printed proclamations issued by Commodore Sir George Collier & Gov. Tryon joyntly, offering protection to all that either submitted or kept peaceably in their Houses. This they violated in most Instances. They also read on the Long Wharf a Proclamation of Freedom to the Negroes which should joyn them; but few, & I think none of the Negroes went off with them. They carried off between 20 and 30 prisoners, among the rest Jn<sup>o</sup> Whiting Esq., Judge of Probate, Cap<sup>t</sup> Mix, M<sup>r</sup> Sabin. Altho' they burned no Dwelling houses in T<sup>o</sup> on the Westside the Water, yet they damaged the Windows, Doors, Wainscot &c of many; but they did not any the least

damage to the Presidents House or College Edifices,<sup>1</sup> & very little to the Meetinghouses, State House &c.

Upon their Landing I sent off my four daughters in Town (one being absent at Hartford)<sup>2</sup> who walked on foot for Carmel. I sent the College Records & a Quant<sup>y</sup> of Coll. Papers 3 M. off by my youngest son. I sent off a horse Load of Bags of Cloaths another way. Then sent Isaac with a Carriage to overtake his Sisters. And then my oldest son Ezra went off towards W. Bridge, and was in all the actions of both the days on both sides the Harbour. At length I was ready to depart, and set off on Horseback to get a few miles out of T<sup>o</sup>, & sent in a Cart which happily brot off 4 Beds & a Trunk from my house. The rest of my Furniture was left, yet they neither took nor damaged any, except one large Looking-Glass into which they fired a Ball which demolished it.<sup>3</sup> I retired a few Miles (2 or 3)— but spent the day in rid<sup>g</sup> round among our Confluence of Militia from Neck Rock<sup>4</sup> to Ditch Corner. And next Morning soon after the Evacu<sup>a</sup> I returned to Town, and visited the Desolations, dead Corpses, & Conflagrations. It was a scene of mixt Joy & Sorrow—Plunder, Rapes, Murder, Bayoneting, Indelicacies towards the sex, Insolence & Abuse & Insult towds the Inhab. in general, Dwellingh. & Stores just setting on fire at E. Haven in full view &c &c &c.—Joy & Rejoycing that the Build<sup>gs</sup> had escaped the Flames in the compact part of the Town; yet mixt with fears of Relanding & future Conflagration of which they had left rigorous Threatnings. The Fleet left us the Eveng. or Night of Tuesd<sup>y</sup> 6<sup>th</sup> Instant.

On Wednesdy Morning July 7<sup>th</sup> they anchored off Fairfield. And landing here they took possession of the T<sup>o</sup> of about an hundred Dwellinghouses. They sent out the Chh. Parson Sayre a Flag with the Proclamation to the Militia; at the same Time setting the Town on Fire. Col. Whiting of the Militia sent back this Answer :

<sup>1</sup> At a later date Edmund Fanning (Yale 1757), a member of the invading party, claimed the credit of having saved the College property from destruction.

<sup>2</sup> The eldest daughter, Betsey, was in Hartford. Kezia and Ruth boarded at Mr. Parker's in Cheshire for about a month (at 24 dollars each per week); and Emilia and Polly were for part of that time at Mr. Atwater's, Mount Carmel, and for part of the time at their Uncle Basil Munson's.

<sup>3</sup> Dr. Stiles met with one other annoying loss. In the sudden removal he broke his excellent Thermometer, which Dr. Franklin had procured for him in London, and gave him in 1762.

<sup>4</sup> Part of East Rock range.



"Connecticut hav<sup>e</sup> nobly dared to take up arms against the cruel Despotism of Britain, & the Flames having preceded their Answer to your Flag; they will persist to oppose to their utmost, the Power exerted against injured Innocence. July 7<sup>th</sup> sunset.

SAMUEL WHITING, Col. Com."

Major Gen. Tryon.

At N. H. we heard the heavy canonade at the Land<sup>e</sup> at Fairfield being III<sup>h</sup> P.M. of Wedn<sup>y</sup> 7<sup>th</sup>. They burned the most of the T<sup>o</sup> that Night with the village of Greensfarms. The publ. buildings &c were spared till next morning when they were burnt. Gov. Tryon in person at Mrs. Burrs, Lady of Thad. Burr Esq. had given her a written Protection for her person House & property. The En<sup>y</sup> embarked next morning—their rear guard at Departure finished the Conflagr<sup>a</sup> and burnt Mrs. Burrs house tho' she shewed the written protection, damn<sup>e</sup> Tryon & his protection & paying no regard to it. Thus Gov. Tryon laid in ashes all the T<sup>o</sup> except perhaps a dozen Buildgs & even these were set fire to but extinguished by our pple—and among the rest, not only the Meeting-house & State House, but the Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh were laid in Ashes by a Member of the Society for propagat<sup>e</sup> the Gospel.

On Thursday Morn<sup>e</sup> they departed from Fairfield & crossed over to Huntington on L. Isld. to recruit. While at Fairfd they made an Excursion 4 or 5 M. to Greensfarms burning & plundering; they there burned the Meeting<sup>h</sup> & Dwelling<sup>h</sup> of the Minister Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Ripley. A large Body of Militia assembled around them, annoyed & shortened their stay.

Ldsdy Eveng. the fleet cross<sup>e</sup> over fr. Hunt. anchored off ag<sup>t</sup> Norwalk 5 M. fr. T<sup>o</sup> and about sunset landed in about 20 Boats. At IV<sup>h</sup> Mondy Morning 12<sup>th</sup> July they marched for T<sup>o</sup>. Major Gen Woolcott & B. Gen. Parsons with Militia & Continentals fr. 900 to *Eleven hundred* opposed them. Our Men gave way. The En<sup>y</sup> entered the T<sup>o</sup> about IX or X<sup>h</sup> A.M. & immed<sup>y</sup> laid the T<sup>o</sup> in Ashes; which was completed by Noon of Monday 12<sup>th</sup> Instant. G. Parsons judged the Enemy Two Thousd at Norwalk.—They burned the Meetingh. & Episcopal Chh at Norwalk with this blasphemous & heaven-daring Expression at setting fire to the latter, "Now, God Almighty, come & defend your own House." The Enemy ascribe the burn<sup>e</sup> the places of Worship to accident & as unavoidable from Vicinity to other Buildings. But here at Norwalk the Episc<sup>o</sup> Ministers house tho' nearest to the Chh, was indeed set on fire just at departure, but extinguished by our people

tho' the Chh could not be saved. They embarked immediately. Having in 7 days from Monday Morn<sup>s</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> to Monday 12<sup>th</sup> or *in one Week* visited three Capital Towns on Connecticut Sea Coast, burned three Meetinghouses and two Episcopal Churches, 80 or 90 Dwellings in Fairfield, 130 in Norwalk, & plundered and desolated to an amount of Damage rendered into Gov. Trumbull of about *One hundred Thousd Pounds sterling*. This is a taste of British Clemency.

The same Week the Main Army of the Enemy under Sir Harry Clinton, of six to 8000 with 12 field pieces and perhaps 500 Horse had advanced to the Heights on the West of Byram River & within one Mile of Horse neck. Thence they sent a detachment and burned Bedford; here they burned the Meetinghouse, as a little before they had burned a Meeting<sup>h</sup> at ———. So they have burned *seven places of Public Worship* within a few days. Arise ô God! Soon after these Operations, all retreated & drew in towards Kingsbridge.

Sir Geo. Collyer in his Lett. to the Min<sup>y</sup> July 27 says the Land Forces under M. G. Tryon in this Expedition were 2600. "The N<sup>o</sup> of killed, wounded & missing on our (Kings) Side amounted to 56." Assigns our firing fr. Windows as Cause of Burning—not Fact:

#### THE ENEMY'S ACCOUNT.

"On the 5<sup>th</sup> Inst. the first Div. consist<sup>g</sup> of the *flank Companies of the Guards*, the *Fusileers*, 54<sup>th</sup> Regt & a Detachmt. of *Jagers*, with four fieldp<sup>s</sup> under B. G. Garth landed about 5 o'clock A. M. a mile S<sup>o</sup> of W. Haven, & began their march making a Circuit of upwards of seven Miles to head a creek on the W. side of the Town.

The 2<sup>d</sup> Div.—before noon the Gen. disembarked with the 23<sup>d</sup>, the *Hessian*, Landgrave, & Kings American Regiments & two p<sup>s</sup> of Cannon on the Eastern side of the Harb<sup>r</sup> & instantly began a march of 3 M. to the ferry." Took Rock fort—the armed Vessels then entered & drew near the Town.

"G. Garth got into T<sup>o</sup> but not without opposition & proceeded to the Bridge over Neck Creek, but the Collection of the En<sup>y</sup> in force on strong Ground & with heavier Metal diverted him &c. The first Div. was ordered to cover the N<sup>o</sup> part of the T<sup>o</sup>, & the 2d to occupy the Heights above the Rock fort. In the Morning the first Div. embarkt at the S.E. part of the T<sup>o</sup> & crossing the ferry joyned the 2d on the E. Haven side, excepting the 54<sup>th</sup> which were sent on board their Transports.

"In their progress of the preceding day fr. W. H. they were under a continual Fire, but—the Rebels were everywhere repulsed. The next morn<sup>g</sup> G. Garth destroyed the pub. Stores, some Vessels & ordnance except<sup>g</sup> 6 field p<sup>s</sup> & an armed privateer, which were bro't off. The Troops embarked at Rock fort in

the Aftern. with little molestation, & the fleet leav<sup>d</sup> the Harbour that Eveng. anchored the Morn<sup>g</sup> of the 8<sup>th</sup> off the Village of Fairfield.

"The Flank Companies of the Guards, 1 Comp<sup>a</sup> of the Landgraves & the Kings Amer. Reg<sup>t</sup> (Tory Refugees) with 2 field p<sup>s</sup> landed—G. Garth landed & joyned them with the remainder of the Troops in the Even<sup>g</sup>. Hav<sup>d</sup> laid under Arms that night the Troops reimbark<sup>d</sup>—the Enemy throwing only a weak scattered fire on the flanks. The Reg<sup>t</sup> de Landgrave by a very proper Disposition hav<sup>d</sup> effect<sup>ly</sup> covered the rear; a great part of the Village was burnt, the Enemy hav<sup>d</sup> occupied the Houses & fired from them.

"To procure some supplies the Army crossed over the Sound to Huntington, & remained there till the Eleventh & repass<sup>d</sup> that day anchored 5 M. fr. the Bay of Norwalk. The sun being nearly set before the 54<sup>th</sup>, the Landgraves Reg<sup>t</sup> & the Jagers were in the Boats, it was near Nine in the Eveng before the Troops Landed at the Cowpasture a peninsula on the E side of the Harbor within a 1½ Mile of the Bridge.—The Kings Amer. Reg<sup>t</sup> (Tories) being unable to joyn the Army before three next morning —. In the March at first dawn of day the 54<sup>th</sup> led the Column & soon fell in with the rebel outposts, & driv<sup>d</sup> the En<sup>y</sup>—dispossessed them of—the heights at the end of the Village East fr. & commanding the Bridge. It being now abot four o'clock in the morning—the Troops halted until the 2<sup>d</sup> Div land<sup>d</sup>—on the W. side of the Harbor had advanced & formed a Junction. G. Garths Div. passed the Bridge by Nine & proceeded to the N<sup>w</sup> End of the Village, fr. whence & esp<sup>ly</sup> from the houses there had been a Fire for five hours upon our advanced Guards. The fusileers, supported by the Light Infantry of the Guards began the attack & soon cleared that Qu<sup>r</sup> push<sup>d</sup> their main Body & 100 Cavalry fr. the northern heights & tak<sup>d</sup> one p<sup>a</sup> of Canon.

"After many saltpans were destroyed—& the Magazines, Stores & Vessels set in flames, *by which the greatest part of the Dwellinghouses were consumed*, the advanced Corps were drawn back, & the Troops retired in two Columns to the place of their first Debarkation & unassaulted took ship & returned to Huntington Bay.

"The Rebels in Arms at New Haven were considerable, more numerous at Fairfield, & still more so at Norwalk. 250 Cont. Troops had now joined their Militia under G. Parsons & together were said to be upwds of *Two Thousd.*—The printed Address to the Inhabitants of Connecticut fr. Commod. Sir Geo. Collyer & M. G. Tryon was distributed at the several places where Descents were made. A Copy of it was sent at Fairfield under Flag by the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Sayer their Episc<sup>o</sup> Miss<sup>y</sup> to a party in arms, who returned an Answer of Defiance. Two Places of pub. Worship at Fair<sup>d</sup> took *fire unintentionally* by the flakes fr. other Buildings. Guards were set for the Preserv<sup>a</sup> of that at Norwalk, but it is very difficult when the Houses are close & of very combustibile Materials of boards & Shingles to prevent the spread<sup>d</sup> of the Flames."

Here ends the insidious delusory Account.

The En<sup>y</sup> Fleet came before Stanford, but left it without landing.

Professor Dagget says a sensible Colonel told him the morning of Depart. fr. N. H. that Gen. Garths Division which marched into



T<sup>o</sup> to his certain knowledge was but *four hundred & seventy odd men*. I give credit to it. But no one else does. Five hundred privates & 100 Officers make a consid. appearance. All that staid in T<sup>o</sup> agree that Garth's Corps was not as large as Gen. Glover's, which was between 900 & 1000 as I had it with certainty at the Time, tho' reputed 2000.

11. Ldsd<sup>y</sup>. So many had left the T<sup>o</sup> that 2 Congregations agreed to meet together in forenoon at M<sup>r</sup> Edwds Meetingh. P M at M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup><sup>s</sup>. I was to preach A.M. but was interrupted in middle of sermon with News of Burn<sup>s</sup> of Norwalk or En<sup>y</sup><sup>s</sup> Land<sup>s</sup>—Congregation broke up & spent P M in removing Furniture & Effects.

13. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Baldwin came yest<sup>y</sup> Morn<sup>s</sup> fr. Norwalk in Ruins.

14. I went to Carmel & Cheshire & put my Children to Board.

17. Writing the Sieur Gerards Diploma.

18. Ldsd<sup>y</sup> Morning News Tak<sup>s</sup> Stoney Pt Fort friday morn 16<sup>th</sup> Inst., & Garison 500. I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup> P.M. Rev. xii, 11. At VI this Eveng G. Glovers Continental Brigade came into Town. He told me D<sup>r</sup> Johnson would be &c for encouraging an Applic<sup>n</sup> to G. Tryon by T<sup>o</sup> Stratford offering Neutrality.<sup>1</sup>

20. Town Meet<sup>s</sup> N. H. & send to Gov. Trumbull for Troops to be sent here.

21. En<sup>y</sup> left Byram River last Lordsday 18<sup>th</sup> Inst.

22. Midst of vigorous Operations of War everywhere.

23. Copying Diploma on Parchment. Gov. Trumbull sent for Acc<sup>o</sup> Suff<sup>gs</sup>. But 160 Troops here, Col Sage—2000 at N. London under G. Tyler.

25. Ldsdy. I preached at W. H. for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Williston who broke his Leg in escaping the En<sup>y</sup> at Landing there. A.M. Isai. 26, 9. P.M. Gal. ult.

26. G. Ward came to T<sup>o</sup> stationed here. Militia ordered down to the Sea Coasts. Maj. G. Wolcott command<sup>s</sup> fr. Byram to Stratford particularly & generally through the State: B. G. Ward fr. Stratford to Saybrook; B. G. Tyler thence to Paucatuck. Perhaps 5000 Militia actually in the 3 Div. at this time.

27. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater set off with Diploma to be signed by the Corporation. Went to E Haven with G. Ward & Col. Sage to

<sup>1</sup> Dr. William Samuel Johnson (Y. C. 1744) was requested on July 12 by inhabitants of Stratford to intercede with the British Commanders. On July 18 he was ordered by Gen. Oliver Wolcott (Y. C. 1747) into custody, but was restored to his home by Governor Trumbull.

reconnoitre Beacon Hill &c for Fortifications. At Morris's recovered some of president Clap's College Mss. took up by a Boat at sea off ag<sup>t</sup> Fairfield the night of the En<sup>y</sup>s Land<sup>c</sup> there. Here the En<sup>y</sup> threw overboard a large Chest of MSS. now lamentably & irrecoverably lost ! A Treasure of great Value !

29. Visited Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> & Goodrich to consult on College affairs. The Morn<sup>c</sup> of the Enemy's Landing I dismissed the Students till further Orders.

### August

1. Ldsdy I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Edwards sick . . . . En<sup>y</sup> at Mile Sq<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> ult. ready for March : marched into N. Y. 30<sup>th</sup>.

3. N. H. Militia reviewed,  $\frac{1}{2}$  want arms. Fortifying the Town.

8. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel, & admitted five persons into full Communion.

9. I find all the Parishes agreed on a Fast.

10. Bro't home this MS yesterday. This day my son Isaac æt. 16. This day finished the Sieur Gerards Diploma and sent it by the Post to the Care of Hon. Henry Marchant Esq. Delegate for Rhode Isld to Congress, Philadelphia . . . .

11. Five hundred Militia in T<sup>o</sup> under B. Gen. Ward.

12. Fast. Tuesday last Week the ministers of the Township of New Haven met voluntarily and agreed to propose to their Chhs. a voluntary Fast upon account of the distressing Calamities & peculiar Danger of the exposed Seaports ; proposing Thursday 12<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> the day. This was laid before the Chhs. & Congregations last Ldsdy, & approved. This day the Nine Chhs. in the several Parishes of this T<sup>o</sup> observed as a day of solemn Fast<sup>c</sup>, Prayer & Humiliation. It was observed here with great Decency & apparent Solemnity, the Militia attending divine Service. I went to M<sup>r</sup> Edwards' Meet<sup>s</sup> in the forenoon. M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Mathers Chhs. agreed to meet together in M<sup>r</sup> W's Meetinghouse which they did—as M<sup>r</sup> Mather is in ill health it relieved him of one Exercise. I attended M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup> P.M. when he preached upon Isai. xlviii, 9-11. The Presence of G<sup>d</sup> seemed to be with us all day. Blessed be God that he has put it into the hearts of his people to seek to him in the hour of Distress, espec<sup>y</sup> now that we are threatned with the Return of the En<sup>y</sup> to lay New Haven &c in Ashes. May G<sup>d</sup> prepare us for his holy & sovereign will. I have great Hope in God that thro' his undeserved protection we shall be spared.

13. By last mond<sup>y</sup> B<sup>o</sup> print, we have certain advice of a naval Engagem<sup>t</sup> in the W. Ind. between the French & English Fleets near Granada, & that Victory declared for the French. . . . A new French Ambassador arrived at Boston, & Mr. Jno. Adams.

15. Ldsdy. P.M. I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey.

16. At Probate office took Lett. Adm<sup>n</sup> on my Mothers Estate.

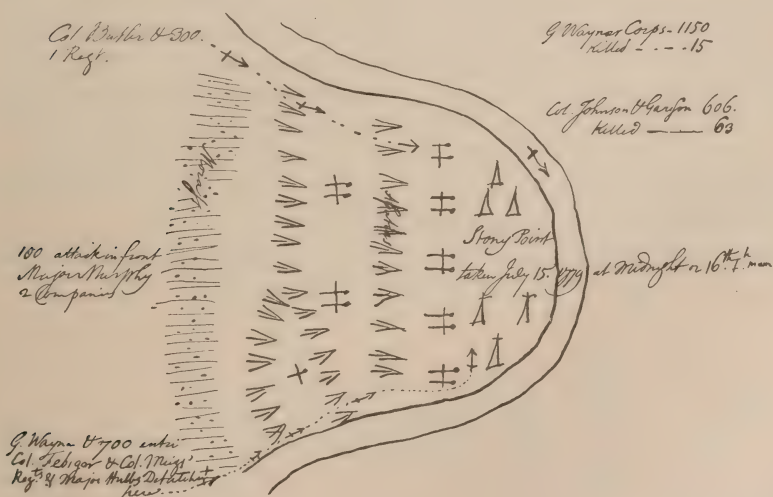
17. Making a Map of New Haven & Enemys Routes.

18. Reconnoitred the Enemys Land<sup>s</sup> at W. Haven.

20. Major Gen. Frederick Baron de Steuben of the Continental Army visited me. He is a German General under the King of Prussia, as well as under Gen. Washington. He was educated with the Sieur Gerard. He says Sieur Gerard was born at Colmar in Alsace in the austrian Dominions of the Emperor of Germany upon the Rhine. Was educated at the Roman Catholic University or Jesuits College at Freiburg in Brisgau adjacent to Basil & is Syndic of Strasburg : Gerard is æt. 46, so born about 1734.

22. Ldsdy. I preached all day at West Haven for Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williston.

23. Last Friday Gen. Baron de Steuben gave me this View of Tak<sup>e</sup> Stony Point :



At midnight arrived at Picket half a mile from the Fort. "At half past Twelve I looked on my watch (says a Lett.) the En<sup>y</sup> fired



generally on us fr. all their Works as the Front of the large Column in which I was had got to the first Line of Abbatis in about ten rods of the outworks of the Fort. The Fire was very brisk from the Canon with Grape shot & Langrage as well as from small arms with Ball & Buckshot, thro' which our Troops advanced with the greatest Regular<sup>y</sup> & firmness without firing a Gun or once breaking their order, except to climb the Abbatis & then formed instantly after pass<sup>d</sup> them, till a part of us forced into their Works over the parapet & a part thro' their sallyport. A little small arm fir<sup>e</sup> & considerable Bayonet<sup>s</sup> closed the scene exactly at one o'Clock '' of Morn<sup>g</sup> 16<sup>th</sup>. The Garison consisted of 17<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> of Light Infantry full corps, the Grenad. of 71<sup>st</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, two comp<sup>a</sup> Royal Americans, & Artill<sup>y</sup> men to man fifteen pieces of Ordinance, 8 of which were Brass.

Return of G. Waynes Corps killed & wounded, *fifteen killed*, 83 wounded. Return Prisoners taken at Stony Point, 441 privates, Officers 23, serv<sup>ts</sup> 25. Wounded 39 privates, Off. &c 14. Killed 50 Privates, Off. &c. Total Amount 63 killed. Another acc<sup>o</sup>. "Prisoners taken 544, about 40 of the En<sup>y</sup> slain after we got into the Works. A numb. of the En<sup>y</sup> escaped in the Boats to the shipp<sup>s</sup> : '' leav<sup>g</sup> no higher Officer than L<sup>t</sup> Col. Johnson.

The En<sup>y</sup>s Acc<sup>o</sup> Garrison 17<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, 2 Comp<sup>a</sup> Grenad. 71<sup>st</sup> one Comp<sup>a</sup> Col. Robinsons Reg<sup>t</sup>, under L<sup>t</sup> Col. Johnson of 17<sup>th</sup> "of the Brit. Troops 30 were killed 43 wounded & 206 Prisoners." In Truth Prisoners inclusive killed & wounded sent in were 606.

24. Noon Sailed my Sister Esther Bradley with her five Children in a Flag for Long Isld, where her Husband is, hav<sup>g</sup> joyned the Enemies of the United States. . . . .

Acc<sup>o</sup> of Conflagration of New Haven, Fairfield & Norwalk July 1779, as rendered in by Order to Gov. Trumbull.

|                | Dwellgh. | Barns | Stores | Shops | Vessels | Mills |                     |
|----------------|----------|-------|--------|-------|---------|-------|---------------------|
|                | E. H.    | E H   |        |       |         |       |                     |
| At New Haven   | 8        | 3     | 6      |       | 7       |       |                     |
| Fairfield Town | 82       | 55    | 15     | 15    |         |       |                     |
| .. Greensfarms | 15       | 11    |        |       |         |       |                     |
| Norwalk        | 135      | 89    | 15     | 25    | 5       | 4     | & 2000 Bush. Wheat. |
|                | 240      | 158   | 36     | 40    | 12      | 4     |                     |

Names of those killed by the En<sup>y</sup> at N. H. July 5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup>.

|                                            |                                      |
|--------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Hotchkiss A.M. first slain | Asa Todd                             |
| Caleb Hotchkiss, sen.                      | Michael Gilbert                      |
| Ezek. Hotchkiss                            | Isaac Pardy                          |
| Jos. Dorman                                | — Kennedy, a Tory                    |
| Samuel Wooden                              | Jacob Thorp, all of N Haven          |
| Silas Wooden                               |                                      |
| Jeduthun Thompson                          | Jn <sup>o</sup> Baldwin of Northford |
| Tim <sup>o</sup> Luddenton                 | — Bradley of Darby                   |
| Negro Pomp                                 | Eldad Parker of Cheshire             |
| D <sup>o</sup> ———                         | a Boy                                |
| Cap <sup>t</sup> John Gilbert              | D <sup>o</sup> — Russel of Branford  |

Names of some of the wounded.

|                             |         |                      |
|-----------------------------|---------|----------------------|
| aged M <sup>r</sup> Beers   | . . . . | died in a week or so |
| aged M <sup>r</sup> English | . . . . | died in an hour      |

Taken Prisoners—Jn<sup>o</sup> Whiting Esq., M<sup>r</sup> Sabin, Cap<sup>t</sup> Mix, Cap<sup>t</sup> Forbes, Dan<sup>l</sup> Talmadge, Adon. Sherman, Jer. Townsend jun., Tim<sup>o</sup> Talmadge, ——— Bills, W<sup>m</sup> Sperry, Sol<sup>o</sup> Pinto, Jared Mansfield.

Professor Dagget wounded & taken prisoner but left.

27. Flag returned with 9 New Haven Prisoners. On 26<sup>th</sup> or yesterday arrived at N. York Adm. Arbuthnot with a Fleet of *sixty six* Sail, of which thirty were Transports & 36 Merch. men.

28. I rode to Southington to preach for Mr. Tutor Robinson.

29. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached at Southington from Cant. ii, 2-4, and administered the Lds. Supper. P.M. Isai. xliii.

30. Returned to College. . . . .

31. Superior Court sit here. I prayed at the opening of it. Last week at Fairfield Sup. Court three Tories received Sentence of Death. I received from the Rev<sup>d</sup> Professor Wigglesworth his Sermon on the Death of Professor Winthrop: the Appendix is extracted from a Letter of mine to D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy.

September

3. On morn<sup>g</sup> VII<sup>1/2</sup><sup>h</sup> June 20<sup>th</sup> Gen. Lincoln at Stono Ferry S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> attacked the En<sup>ys</sup> Lines at about fourty y<sup>ds</sup> dist. & continued till IX o'clock when the Gen. ordered a Retreat to be made. "I suppose we had upwards of *Two Thous<sup>d</sup>* & the Enemy about *Twelve hundred*. But as their Lines were defended by Abbatis & Pickets it prevented our men &c." We lost [30] killed & [116] wounded.

The same day that Tryon's Corps burned Norwalk, a party from Clintons main Army at Byram River "burned two Meetinghouses

& twenty-six Dwellinghouses in Bedford, & between Bedf<sup>d</sup> & Kingstreet'' i. e.—the Meeting<sup>h</sup> at Poundridge. Before this they this Summer burned the Meetinghouse at Crumpond. So they have burned in about a week *two Episcopal Chhs. and six Presb. Meetinghouses* & 250 Dwellinghouses. The places of pub. worship consumed were the Meet<sup>th</sup> & Chh. at Fairf<sup>d</sup>, the Meeting<sup>h</sup> at Greensfarms, the Meeting<sup>h</sup> & Chh. at Norwalk, besides the Meetinghouses at Bedf<sup>d</sup>, Poundridge & Crumpond.

I find I must pass over many Events. . . . .

LETT. TO GOV. TRYON. COPY.

YALE COLLEGE July 14, 1779.

“Sir

The Troops of the separate Expedition under your Excellency's Command, when they left N. Haven the 6<sup>th</sup> Inst carried away with them, among other Things, the Papers & MSS of the *Rev<sup>t</sup> President Clap* late Head of this Seat of Learning. They were in the Hands of his Daughter, Mrs. Wooster Lady of the late General Wooster, & lodged in the Generals House.<sup>1</sup> Among them, besides some *Mathematical & Astronomical* Compositions, were Letters & Papers of Consequence respecting this College, which can be of no service to the present possessors. This waits upon you, Sir, to request this Box of MSS, which can have no respect to the present times, as Mr Clap died 1767. A War against Science has been reprobated for ages by the wisest & most powerful Generals. The irreparable Losses sustained by the Repub. of Letters, in the destruction of the Alexandrian Library, and other antient Monuments of Literature, have generously prompted the victorious Commanders of modern Ages, to exempt these Monuments from the Ravages & Desolations inseparable from the highest Rigors of War. I beg Leave upon this occasion, to address myself only to the principles of Politeness & Honor, humbly asking the Return of those MSS, which to others will be useless, to us valuable. I am, Sir,

Your Excellencys most obed<sup>t</sup>  
very humb. Serv<sup>t</sup>

To his Excellency  
Major General Tryon.

EZRA STILES President.

Sent by Cap<sup>t</sup> Sabin, Aug. 17, 1779.<sup>2</sup>

A. D. MEMOIRS OF THE REV<sup>D</sup> RECTOR WILLIAMS.

1694. Aug. 24<sup>th</sup>, Born at Hatfield son of Rev. William Williams.  
1708. Admitted Sophomore in Harvard College, & educated under Mr Tutor Remington.  
1711. } Graduated A.B. and A.M. by M<sup>r</sup> President Leverett; and  
1714. } soon married Miss Eunice Chester & settled at Wethersfield.

<sup>1</sup> Still standing on the north side of Wooster street, a little to the west of Chestnut.

<sup>2</sup> For the reply, see this Diary, Dec. 31, 1779.



- 1717. Made Tutor of Refugee Scholars at Weathersfield by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Woodbridge & Buckingham two Trustees; afterwds chosen & approved at a legal Meeting of the Trustees of College.
- 1718. Member & Clerk of the Assembly.
- 1720. Severe Fit of Sickness—sanctified.
- 1721. Æ. 27. Ordained Pastor of the Chh in Newington.
- 1726. Æ. 33. Installed Rector of Yale College. Elected 1725. He filled thls Chair with great Usefulness & Honor 13 years.
- 1739. Æ. 46. He resigned the Rectorate ; & was succeeded by Mr. Clap.—He removed to Weathersfield. Was Elected Member of the General Assembly ; constituted Judge of the Sup. Court.
- 1745. Æ. 51. Went Chaplain in the Army in C. Breton Expedition.
- 1746. Became Colonel of a Reg<sup>t</sup> in the proposed Canada Expedition.
- 1750 circa. Went to England—became acquainted with the Rev. Dr. Dodderidge and married Mrs. Scott of Norwich.
- 1752. Apr. 24. Returned to New England, & lived a Merchant.
- 1755. July 24. died at Weathersfield Æ. 61.

4. I received a Packet from Philad<sup>a</sup> being Letters from the Minister of France the Sieur Gerard, & Mr. Marchant.

A PHILADELPHIE le 20. Aout 1779.

“MONSIEUR,

Le Diplome des honneurs academiques que le Senat de l'Academie de Yale College a bien voulu me conferer, m'a été remis par M<sup>r</sup> Marchant Delegué de l'Etat de Rhode Island au Congrès des Etats Unis. J'ai recu en même tems la lettre elegante et obligeante dont vous avés eu la bonté d'accompagner cet envoi.

Je me trouve infiniment honoré, Monsieur, par cette promotion qui est uniquement le fruit du propre mouvement de l'Academie. Je pouvois envier cette distinction ; mais il ne m'étoit pas permis de la solliciter. J'en connais tout le prix. Il est analogue à l'éclat de la reputation que cette illustre fondation litteraire s'est acquise en Europe aussi bien qu'en Amerique. La gloire, la delicatesse, et l'honneur que resulte pour moi de son choix, suplèront aux qualités distinguées qu'Elle cherche dans le membre qu'Elle s'associe.

Destiné des ma jeunesse à la carriere des negociations j'ai dû borner mes etudes principales au soins de remplir des fonctions aussi delicates qu'importantes, et l'etude des Loix a fait une partic de mes occupations les plus constantes, parceque je suis persuadé que la justice doit être la base d'une politique

saine, utile et honorable. C'est à l'influence benigne d'une étoile heureuse que je dois le bonheur d'avoir pu rendre mon zèle et mes travaux utiles à la grande cause américaine. Je m'enorgueillis de l'opinion que vous voulés bien me temoigner que mes efforts ont été de quelque utilité. Ce motif de votre choix comble mes vœux puisqu'il est un temoignage aussi honorable qu'autentique de votre façon de penser à cet égard et de celle des peuples de l'Amerique en general. Ma sensibilité et ma reconnaissance seront de nouveaux liens qui m'attacheront à leur cause, et je ne cesserai jamais de desirer de me trouver à portée de contribuer à resserrer dans l'ordre politique et dans l'ordre Social une union que la Providence menagé pour être la source commune de la félicité de deux grandes Nations.

Je regrette, Monsieur, que mon départ prochain pour l'Europe me prive de la satisfaction de jouir de plus près de vos travaux ; mais l'éloignement des lieux ne fera qu'augmenter mon zèle pour la gloire et pour les succès de l'Académie, et je serois flatté que vous voulussiez bien m'indiquer les moyens d'y contribuer.

Il me reste, Monsieur, à vous prier de recevoir personnellement mes remerciemens dans cette occasion. L'Oraison que vous avés eu la bonté de m'envoyer fera mes délices dans quelques momens de loisir et m'apprendra certainement à ajouter l'estime pour vos talens aux sentimens respectueux et reconnaissans avec lesquels j'ai l'honneur d'être

Monsieur

Votre très humble et

très obeissant Serviteur

GERARD.

A Monsieur Monsieur Ezra Stiles President de  
l'Académie de Yale College a New Haven  
dans le Connecticut.

From M<sup>r</sup> Marchant in his Letter to me dated Philad<sup>a</sup> Aug. 21,  
1779.

"DEAR SIR

Last Monday I rec<sup>d</sup> yours of the 8<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> with the Inclosures for the Sieur Gerard :—I waited upon his Excell<sup>y</sup> & did myself the pleasure and Honor of delivering them to him, in Terms as respectful both to him and your Rev<sup>d</sup> Corporation, and the Institution under them, as I was capable of. Nothing could afford me more Satisfaction than the polite manner in which Sieur Gerard received the Honors confer'd. Yesterday he did me the Honor of a Visit, & put into my Hands the inclosed Letter directed to yourself, requesting I would forward it with an additional Assurance of the high Honor he conceived conferred upon him by your most respectable Literary Institution."

5. Ldsdy. I preached all day for the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Humphrey at Darby.

6. Examining Darling æt. 26 a Student in Rh. Isld Coll. offering & requesting a Degree of A.B. here, as Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> Coll. is broken up . . . . .

7. Committee of the Corporation of Y. C. met on Business of College.

7. This is the anniversary Commencement here, but private this year on acc<sup>o</sup> of the pub. Calamities. Eight of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> were present besides myself viz. Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> W<sup>ms</sup>, Warham Do., Trumbull, Johnson, Goodrich, Taylor, Lockwood & Pitkin. We confer'd the Degrees of Bachelor & Master of Arts upon about 56 in a gen. Diploma. We also conferred the honorary Degrees of Master of Arts upon Hon. Judge Huntington & Charles Chauncy Esq, and the Degree of Doctor of Physic upon D<sup>r</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Bartlett, Phys. Gen. in the Contin. Army, principal Surgeon & Superintendent of the Fishkill Cont. Hospital : also the Degree of *Doctor of Laws* upon the Hon. Matthew Griswold Esq. Dep. Gov. of the State of Connect. & Chief Justice of the Sup<sup>r</sup> Court of Judicature. I received the following gratuitous Fees. The legal fee 4 Doll. old way : but I left the Depreciation to the Candidates.

## BACHELORS.

|                                   |          |                                   |          |
|-----------------------------------|----------|-----------------------------------|----------|
| Sir Bradford . . .                | 40 Doll. | S <sup>r</sup> M. Tal. Russel . . | 70 Doll. |
| Sir Eells . . .                   | 36       | S <sup>r</sup> Darling . . .      | 40       |
| Sir Brainerd . . .                | 40       | Sir Brace . . .                   | 70       |
| Sir Hazeltine . . .               | 40       | Sir Stevens . . .                 | 30       |
| Sir Woodruff . . .                | 40       | Sir Goodrich . . .                | 40       |
| Sir Whittelsey 2 . .              | 40       | Sir Townsend . . .                | 40       |
| Sr. Payne . . .                   | 40       | Sir Noyes . . .                   | 40       |
| Sir Johnson . . .                 | 50       | Sir Ely . . .                     | 40       |
| Sir Wells 1 . . .                 | 60       | Sir Austin . . .                  | 40       |
| Sir Whittelsy 1 . .               | 30       | Sir Fowler . . .                  | 70       |
| Sir Mead . . .                    | 60       | Sir Pitkin . . .                  | 80       |
| Sir Webb . . .                    | 40       | Sir Morey 1777                    |          |
| Sir Goodrich . . .                | 70       | Sir Maltby                        |          |
| Sir Catlin . . .                  | 40       | Sir Cook                          | } Donat. |
| S <sup>r</sup> Read, Sam'l 1777 . | 60       | Sir Bell                          |          |
| Sr Welles 2 . . .                 | 60       | Sir Thayer                        |          |
| Sr. Baldwin (W <sup>m</sup> ) . . | 40       | Sir Stevens                       |          |
| S <sup>r</sup> Kirtland . . .     | 40       | Sir Good.                         |          |
| S <sup>r</sup> Whitman . . .      | 40       | Sir Seymor                        |          |

## MASTERS.

|                                 |          |                                          |          |
|---------------------------------|----------|------------------------------------------|----------|
| Mr. Lyman, Dan <sup>l</sup> . . | 80 Doll. | M <sup>r</sup> Leverett <i>Harv.</i> . . | 80 Doll. |
| Mr. Phelps . . .                | 40       | Mr. Wm A. Russel . .                     | 80       |
| Mr Baldwin, Ashbel .            | 80       | Mr. Lawrence . . .                       | 80       |
| Mr. Foster . . .                | 80       | Mr Hinman } . .                          | 100      |
| Major Hull . . .                | 80       | Mr. Mitchel } . .                        |          |
| Gen. Patterson . . .            | 80       | Mr. Camp . . .                           | 80       |



## MASTERS.

|                    |          |                        |                   |
|--------------------|----------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. Preston . . .  | 80 Doll. | Mr. Morey Sir . . .    | 59 vid. supr.     |
| Mr. Prindle . . .  | 78       |                        | <u>2661 Doll.</u> |
| Mr. Stiles . . .   | 80       |                        |                   |
| Mr. Bird . . .     | 78       | Dec. 1, 1779 Mr Watson | 160               |
| Mr Strong . . .    | 90       | Dec. 4 Judge Hunt.     | 1 Guinea.         |
| Mr. Goodrich . . . | 90       |                        |                   |

Seals Diplomas, 120 Doll = say 7 Doll. hard money

1800 Cont. Doll = 100 Span. milled D<sup>o</sup>. So 2661 = about 150 Doll. or about £45. old way. Truly 23 for 1. So = £34.

8. There were no public Academical Exercises. After the general Diploma was finished, the Corporation descended into the Chapel where the Candidates were assembled and I there publ<sup>y</sup> read off the Diploma, & conferred the other Degrees not contained in the Diploma.

9. We settled my Salary as follows—

|                                      |                                  |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Beef £7. 10. 0 . . . . .             | £333. 6. 0                       |
| Pork @ 10. 10. 0 . . . . .           | 350                              |
| Wheat 12 Doll. per Bush. . . . .     | 640                              |
| Ind. Corn @ 6 Do. per Bush . . . . . | 640                              |
|                                      | <u>£.1963. 6. 0 Continental.</u> |

It was agreed between us that £2000. be equal to £160. salary.

10. The Corporation finished business.

11. This Morning I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Baron Steuben, informing that the Minister of France was approaching & requesting &c. About X o' Clock A.M. arrived in T<sup>o</sup> Baron Steuben & his Aid, and half an hour after the Chevalier de la Luzern<sup>1</sup> with his Retinue. A number of Gentlemen rode out to meet them & among the rest Gen. Ward, who escorted the Minister into T<sup>o</sup>. The Baron & myself & a number of Gentlemen were waiting at Mr Beers<sup>2</sup> where he alighted—we were introduced & introduced one another to him & Monsieur Marboys Councillor of the Parl<sup>t</sup> of Metz &c. After the first Interview was over he asked to walk to College; we walked over to the Library, & surveyed the T<sup>o</sup> from the Coll. Steeple, & had much Conversation. The Chevalier looks to be a Man æt. 32. By Vessels in at N. Lond. & Dartm<sup>o</sup> fr. W.

<sup>1</sup> Anne César, Chevalier de la Luzerne, born 1741, Minister to the United States from 1779 to 1783.

<sup>2</sup> Isaac Beers kept a shop, including a book-store, on the corner of College and Chapel streets, where the New Haven Hotel now stands.

Indies we have Reports of a French Fleet 16 or 20 days ago in Lat. 25° N° & standing N.W. supposed for Georgia.

In convers<sup>a</sup> with the French Ambassador & his Suite I found that it was determined in France that no Pacification should be made but inclusive of the Independence of America. The Chevalier de *la Luzerne* the Minister plenipotentiary of France is of good Stature rather large, plump, of a ruddy handsome Countenance, of a delicate Make, dressed very plain: he is taken from military Life, being a Colonel. He was lately employed in signing the settlement between the Emperor & King of Prussia in the Dispute about the Bavarian Succession. He is very near sighted indeed, which must have been a great disadvantage when he was adjutant in the last War. He is somewhat reserved, contemplative, & loves to be conversant with Books & Maps & Drawings. I believe he understands the Rotine of Duty, but I should think him not a great Character. He has for his Companions as Ambassador, Mons. Marbois Secretary to the Embassy, two private Secr<sup>ys</sup> one of whom is a Protestant, and a Surgeon: he is attended by 5 or 6 Light Horse & perhaps ten Servants; He travels in a Coach & six. Cap<sup>t</sup> Belding with about 30 Continental Lighthorse by Order of Congress, set off with him to escort him to Philadelphia.

Mons. Marbois<sup>1</sup> is a learned Civilian; a Councillor of the Parliament of Metz: æt. 35 as I judge: speaks English very tolerably & much better than his Excellency the Minister. He was very inquisitive for Books & american Histories & concerning this College & the state of Literature in America; both he & the Minister spake with great Admiration of the american Improvements in Science as well as other Things. Among other Things I asked Mons. Marbois whether the Powers of Europe would contentedly see G. Britain annihilated? he said no; it would be for the Interest of Europe that Britain should have weight in the Balances of Power. I asked, whether it would be for the public political Interest of Europe that Ireland should be dismembered from Britain and become a separate sovereignty? he said, no—nor would the European powers consent that Ireland should be conquered from England. Then said I there is nothing in the supposed Descent upon Ireland by the united Navy of France & Spain & 25 Thousand men? he replied *no otherwise than to assist*

<sup>1</sup> Francois de Barbé-Marbois, born in Metz in 1745, died 1837.

*America*—that France did not want to conquer Irel<sup>d</sup> nor assist in its becoming Independent ; and indeed that France did not want to enlarge her Dominions by Conquest or otherwise, because she was already as large in Territory and numbers as was convenient for Empire & Government. So I see poor Irel<sup>d</sup> is to be forsaken at last. We had much Discourse respecting the Protestants in France & the Revocation of the Edict of Nantz. I told him I hoped the Example of American religious as well as civil Liberty might induce France to grant Liberty to the Protestants there. He said that the King had given assurance that the Protestants should be unmolested & might perform all parts of their worship in private Houses but not publickly ; but that the Edict of Nantz could not be revived without giving great Umbrage to the Body of the B<sup>ps</sup> & Clergy, most of whom would be against such a measure, except the ABp of Tolouse & the Bp of Grenoble, who were for reestablishing the Edict of Nantz. He said however, after this the Laws would never be put in Execution against the Hugonots. I asked him whether Deism prevailed in France ? He said some of the lighter sort were deists, but the more sedate & the general Body of the Nation had no Thoughts of Deism. I believe he himself was no Deist, I rather take him to be *grounded* in religion.

We conversed much concern<sup>g</sup> the System of Jurisprudence in France & the Course of the Jural Studies there. The Roman Law he said obtained almost everywhere, but with very different Efficacy ; in some Provinces or Districts peculiar Local Laws operated generally, & these Deviations from the Roman Law were called Jus Gallicum. I asked if any of the Laws of the ancient Druids & Gauls obtained ? he sd, no ; & the same as to the Salic Laws. He said there was a Relict of the antient Laws of the Franks in some parts ; and that the Gallic Jurisprudence was of a very mixt Complexion. He gave me an account of their Jural Professors & Authors, among whom *Domat* was capital. He had been Secretary to foreign Embassies, and was well acquainted with political Negotiations. He inquired whether we at Yale College conferred the Doctorates and all the academical Degrees ? I told him, yes ; and that we had this week conferred 2 Doctorates one in *Law*, & another in *Medicine*, besides the Degrees in the Arts & Sciences.

12. Ldsdy. Between VI & VII this Morn<sup>g</sup> the Ambassador & his Retinue rode off for Milford in magnificent Grandeur. I preached all day for the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Mather.



13. I rec<sup>d</sup> of the Steward 120 Doll. my part for Sealing 40 Diplomas. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> established the old Fee of 2/ old way for Sealg. a Diploma. I employed the Stew<sup>d</sup> this year to affix the Seal at six Doll. apiece & gave him half. I conferred just 60 Degrees this Commencement. Ships, vessels, fleets pass & repass eastward & westward, but we are ignorant of their Intention. A Prize at Boston from Engld has a sett of Types & Paper for counterfeiting the Continental Currency anew, as the calling in of the old Emissions rendered useless the former Counterfeits. In May & June last the speeches & Exam. in Parl<sup>t</sup> shew 1. That Gen. Howe, Gen. Burgoyne, G. Grey, Gen. Ld Cornwallis, & all the capital Generals that have been over in the American War except Gen. Robinson represent America invincible. 2. That the Ministry & Generals are at Variance. 3. That Ld. Geo. Germain says that America cannot be subdued, but the Rebellion may. The Ministers asserted in Parl<sup>t</sup> that Gen. Howe's Army at the Battle of Brandywine was *fourteen Thousd*; and G. Wash. *ten Thousd*—probably Truth! That the British Army was strongest as to Numbers that Campaign of 1777 & 1776.

14. We have but 250 Militia in Town under G. Ward. . . . .

15. Died Sat<sup>y</sup> Even<sup>g</sup> 11<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Enos Alling æt. 61, one of my Classmates. A Merchant of Eminence.

16. Set out on a Journey for Rhode Island, via Cheshire.<sup>1</sup> Lodged Mr. Danas. Paid Mr. Foot for Kezia 107 Doll. in full for 8 w. Board. Left her 63 Doll. Sent to Br. Hubbard 140 Doll. for acc<sup>o</sup> of Ruth & Pollys Board.<sup>2</sup>

17. Left with Emilia 100. Viaticum remaining 842 Doll. fr. about 2600. Dined at Rev. Mr. Brays at Cohabit,<sup>3</sup> where I examined & admitted 3 Freshmen. Lodged at Dr. Ruggles of Guilford.

<sup>1</sup> Some items from the Itinerary are added under this head to the Diary.

<sup>2</sup> In the dispersion consequent on the British invasion, Dr. Stiles's family had been scattered: his daughter Betsy, aged 21, was in Hartford, with her cousins, the Wyllys family; Kezia, aged 19, for most of the time with the Rev. John Foot (Yale 1765), of Cheshire; Emilia, aged 17, with her Aunt, Mrs. Munson, in North Haven, and at the Rev. Dr. Dana's in Wallingford; Ruth, aged 14, with her uncle, the Rev. John Hubbard (Yale 1744), of Meriden; Polly, aged 12, also in Meriden; Ezra, aged 20, in New Haven; Isaac, aged 16, at his Aunt Munson's. Dr. Stiles himself had boarded with his neighbor, Mr. Beers, at 26 dollars per week.

<sup>3</sup> North Guilford: a name given when the owners of the uncleared land used to go up from Guilford & live there together for several days at a time.

18. Visited Rev. Mr. Todd & Rev. Mr. Mansfield & Dr. Gale. Rode to Rev. Mr. Devotions.

19th. Ldsdy. At Saybrook. I preached for Rev. Mr. Devotion and baptized a Child at his Desire & he being present.

20. In company with Mr. Green of Warwick. Visited Rev. Mr. Hart, Saybrook ferry. Rope ferry 1 Doll. N. Lond. Lodged Capt. Rhodes Stonington.

21. At Stonington. Visited David Chesebro' Esq., an Exile of my Newport Church.

22. Visited Dr. Babcock. Dined at Mr Chesebro's in Company with Rev<sup>d</sup> Messrs. Fish & Eells. News of French Fleet.

23. Mr. Chesebro's Serv<sup>t</sup> 10 Doll. Mr. Chesebro' rode &c. gave me 20 Doll. & encouraged me he would found a Lecture in Yale College. Rode thro' Westerly. Dined Richmond.

Dinner 4 Doll.

Oats 1½

Hay 1½

Rum 1

---

8 Doll.

Rode to Mrs. Marchants.

24. Conversing about the new visionaries Wilkinson & Hazard.

26. Ldsdy. I preached for Dr. Torrey at So. Kingston on Tower Hill, Cant. ii, 2-4. We had but one Service as is the manner at Narragansett. We began at noon.

After Sermon I led Mrs. Balfour, one of my Newport Flock, to own the Cov<sup>t</sup> & make profession of the Faith, then I baptized her publicly, declaring her a Member of the visible universal Chh. & entitled to full Communion & Enjoyment of special Ordinances in any particular Chhs. wherever Gd in his Providence might cast her Lot. She expects to remove to her Husband Major And<sup>w</sup> Balfour<sup>1</sup> in N<sup>o</sup> Carolina. It was done by Mr. Torrys Desire. She would have been rec'd to Mr. Torry's Chh. but for want of Time of consent &c.

27. News French Fleet blocked up the Engl. Fleet in Torbay & put Engld's Coast in Consternation. From Tower Hill & N<sup>o</sup> Ferry I beheld thro' a good perspective Glass the T<sup>o</sup> of Newport, & saw my own House, my Meetinghouse, all the publ. Buildings, &c. Many Houses pulled down & destroyed; not above twelve Vessels at all the Wharves and only two Men o' War in the Harbor.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, May 1, 1774.

I took Ben Pitman<sup>1</sup> for 2 years & left 60 Dollars for his Travel-  
ling Expences. Oats &c 8/. Lodged Mr. Greenes at Potowam.

28. Visiting Newport Refugees & Exiles. I preached a Lecture  
at East Greenwich . . . Lodged at Gov. Greenes. Saw Mrs.  
Macom Sister of D<sup>r</sup> Franklin, who shewed me his Epitaph in his  
own hand writ<sup>g</sup>. viz

DR. FRANKLIN'S EPITAPH FOR HIMSELF  
composed 20 years ago.

"The Body of B. Franklin  
Printer

Like the Cover of an old Book  
Its Contents torn out

And stript of its Lettering & Gilding  
Lies here food for Worms.

But the Work shall not be lost

It will (as he believed) appear once more

In a new and more beautiful Edition,

Corrected and amended

By the Author.

He was born January 6, 1706 and " died 17[90 April 17<sup>th</sup> Æt. 85.]

N.B. He was born Jan'y 1705/6 as his Sister tells me ; who says  
—Mr. Josiah Franklin Father of D<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Franklin came out of  
Engld from Ecton in NorthHamptonshire, with his Wife &  
Children & settled in Boston in N. England. After the Death  
of his first Wife, he married M<sup>rs</sup> Abiah Foulgier of Nantucket &  
by her had ten Children, of whom D<sup>r</sup> Franklin was the youngest  
son, & Jane (Macom) the youngest Daughter (I think) who was  
b. March 27, 1712. He belonged to Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Sewalls Chh & died  
Dec. 1, 1744, æt. 89. His wife died 1752 æt. 85. The Doctor  
read his Bible at five years old. On a specimen of his Ingenuity,  
he received a Letter from his Uncle Benj<sup>a</sup> Franklin in Engld in

<sup>1</sup>The following paper is entered in the Itinerary :—

"South Kingston, Sept. 27, 1779. I hereby put my Son Benjamin Pitman to  
the Rev. Dr. Stiles to live with & serve him until he is æt. 15 which will be  
Sept. 16, 1781, for which he is to be comfortably clothed & schooled 2 After-  
noons per Week.

"ABIGAIL PITMAN."

Dr. Stiles adds :—I left 60 Doll. with Widow Pitman, and Directions that in  
about ten days the Lad should be sent forward to Mr. Chesebro' at Stonington  
and to Rev. Mr. Hart, Saybrook. He arrived at New Haven, Oct. 25, 1779.  
Expences 4. Returned 48 Doll.



1713—"If the Buds are so precious what may we expect when the fruit is ripe?" He learned Latin chiefly himself, tho' he went to the Latin School in Boston. Studied incessantly a nights when a boy. Addicted to all kinds of reading. His Brother James was a Printer in B<sup>o</sup> with whom he lived an Apprentice: and after some political Quarrels the *Courant* was printed in Benjamins name. Upon his B<sup>r</sup> James removing his press to Newport, Benj<sup>a</sup> went to Philad<sup>a</sup> æt. 17. Afterwards he went to London & worked Journey Work about two years, and then returned & set up his Business at Philadelphia. His Uncle Benj<sup>a</sup> came over also & settled in D<sup>r</sup> Coleman's Chh in Boston, where he died a good old Man. D<sup>r</sup> Coleman preached his funeral sermon on "*Mark the perfect man &c.*" Ex ore M<sup>rs</sup> Macom the Doctors Sister now living at East Greenwich. Gov. Franklin now æt. 47, ex ore Mrs. Macom his Aunt.

29. At E. Greenwich. I baptized John, son of W<sup>m</sup> & Katherine Wilson a Refugee formerly from Newport & of my flock. Also I baptized 5 children of Adam Maxwell<sup>1</sup> & Ann his wife, John, Robt. Peter, Nathaniel Green, Benjamin, Joseph Joslyn. Also I baptized Jacob son of Ichabod Smith & Hannah his wife of E. Greenwich. At IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. I preached a Lecture, Rom. xiv, 23. Lodged at Mr. Stevens.

30. Rode to Providence & lodged at Capt Churchs.

## October

1. I baptized Martin son of Nathan & Judith Luther. Visiting my dispersed Flock. Rode to Rehoboth. Lodged at Mr. Vernons.

2. Rode with Rev. Sol. Towns<sup>d</sup> to view the Ruins of Bristol. Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh of St. Michael and Nineteen dwelling houses burnt at Bristol below the Bridge by the En<sup>y</sup> May 25, 1778. At II<sup>½</sup> I was at Bristol Ferry. Lodged at Mr. Wightmans 2 m. from ferry.

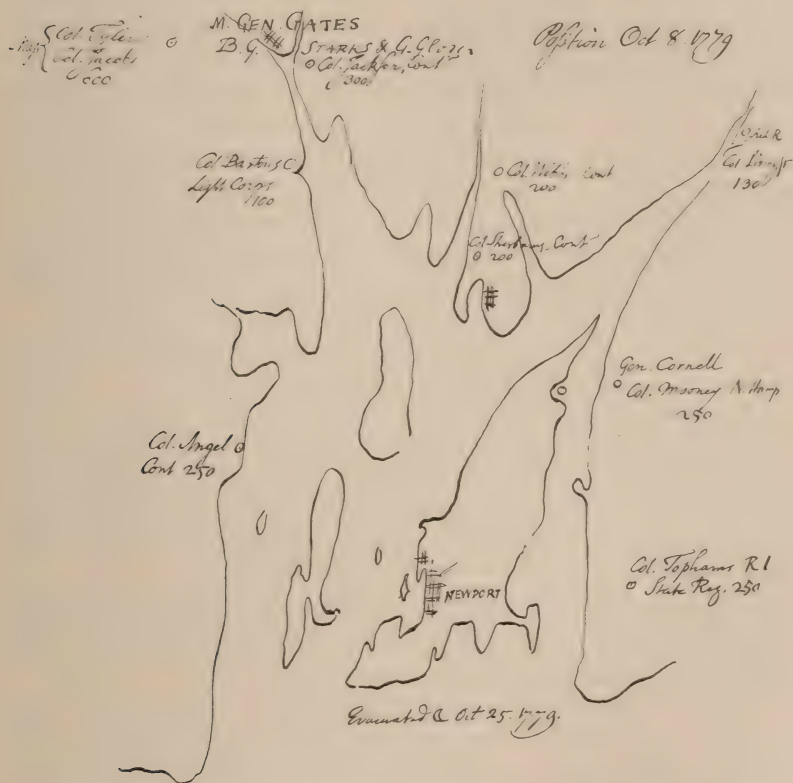
3. Ldsdy. I preached at Providence near half my flock being in & about that Town, A.M. Cant. ii, 2-4 & admin. the Sacr<sup>t</sup> Lds Supper P.M.—and baptized Hannah Daughter of Nath<sup>l</sup> & Hannah Frothingham, Katharine Church Daughter of Quaum & Dutchess & Bristol & Ruth D. of Bristol & Phillis.

4. At Provid. I baptized Susanna D. of Susanna formerly Caldwell, now Snow, by David Caldwell dec<sup>d</sup> of my Newport Flock. And P.M. I bapt. at Prov. Zechariah Son of Wm. Syms & Wife of

<sup>1</sup> Formerly a schoolmaster in Newport, from Kirkiner, Wigtownshire, Scotland.

my Newp<sup>t</sup> flock on acc<sup>o</sup> of the Grandparent Mrs. Way who with Consent of parents adopted it—the parents, tho' in Cov<sup>t</sup>, being vicious &c.

5. Baptized privately Sarah D. of Sam'l Clark & Sarah his W. in Provid. formerly of my Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock. Spent Evening with M. Clajon æt. 54, French Secr<sup>y</sup> to G. Gates, with whom I dined.



[Sketch, by Dr. Stiles, of situation around Rhode Island, October, 1779.]

6. Left Providence.

7. At Bristol I preached to two Reg<sup>ts</sup> Col. Webbs & Col. Sherburns, Gen. xlix. In Bristol from Bridge to Bridge & within one Mile square space are about one hundred Dwellinghouses of which 19 burned.

9. At Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Ellis's in Saconet, hav<sup>g</sup> visited round the Disper-

sion of my Newport Flock from Narrag. to Little Compton. Dined with Gen. Cornell at Howlds ferry—visited the Encampments—Mrs. Ann Carr W<sup>o</sup> ob. Aug. 9, 1777.

Lodged at Mrs. Channings in Dighton.

10. Ldsdy. Preached at Dighton A.M. Gal. ii. 20. P.M. Isai. xlv & baptized publickly Ann D. of W<sup>m</sup> Channing Esq. & Lucy his W. Also Nancy D. of James Smith of Bristol & Phebe his Wife.

11. Examined & admitted Henry Channing æt. 19, into the Junior Class in Yale College being 3<sup>d</sup> years standing.—Went to Taunton & lodged at Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Fobes' of Raynham. The Freshmen Class 27 this year at Harv. College. This Morning Fleet of 70 sail Transports &c arrived at Newport news of which at Dighton by Noon [29 Ships 9 Briggs 5 Schooners 12 Sloops 1 Vineyard Boat. Tot. 56. Counted at N. Lond.]

12. At Taunton Seth Paddelford Esq. & Rebecca his Wife owned the Cov<sup>t</sup> privately & I bapt. Polly Dennis & Ezek. Dennis their Children. Also Peter James son Benj<sup>a</sup> Sayer & Sarah his Wife of my Newp<sup>t</sup> Chh. Also I bapt. Abigail D. of Major Joshua Sayer & Rebecca his Wife at Taunton, another of my flock.

At Dighton I bapt. Nancy D. of Tho<sup>s</sup> Tamplin & Ruth his Wife.

13. I rec'd of Miss Nanny Channing of my Wifes Things in her Care 2 red Baise Petticoats, 1 striped flannel d<sup>o</sup>, 1 red baise Waistcoat & 1 pair black worsted Gloves—to be divided among my Children at my Discretion. Petticoats valued 2 Doll. apiece old way—Gloves 1 Doll.—Waistcoat 1 Doll. old way.

At Dighton I baptized Mary D. of Sylvest. Richmond the second & Abigail his W. Left Dighton to return for N. Haven. Newport Island to be evacuated.

Lodged at Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Rogersons in Rehoboth. [Quaumino killed on Board a Privateer in Action about Aug last. Designated for African Mission.<sup>1</sup>]

14. At Providence. I baptized three children of John Gibbs & Eliz<sup>a</sup> his Wife—she owning the Cov<sup>t</sup> privately [Sally, Betsy & Polly].

Universal Expect<sup>a</sup> of Evacuation of Newport.

15. Dined at M<sup>r</sup> Ellery's in Mendon. Rode to Sutton.

16. Dined at Dudley, 4 Doll.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, April 8, 1773.



17. Ldsdy. At N<sup>o</sup> Woodstock I preached for my Uncle the Rev<sup>d</sup> Abel Stiles æt. 70 circa.

18. Left Woodstock for Hartfd<sup>l</sup>. At III<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub><sup>h</sup> P.M. my Horse fell with me in Coventry in crossing a broken Bridge—By the fall I was exceedingly bruised in my Face, one of my foreteeth beat out & my Life greatly endangered : But by God's gracious Preservation no Bone broken. I stopt for the Night at Mr. Richardsons—and was very ill all night.

19. Ill of my Fall & Wounds—yet by Gds Goodness journeyed perhaps 25 Miles to Becklys in Worthington. At Dr. Waldo's for dressing my face 12 Doll.; at Hills 2<sup>2</sup>/<sub>3</sub> Doll.; at Glastenbury 2<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Doll. Ferry 1 Doll.

20. At Meriden visited two of my Children, & paid 200 Doll. for their Board, 3/ old way per week. Arrived at New Haven in the Even<sup>g</sup>, and found that M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater had set up Orders at College last Even<sup>g</sup>, when Vacation ended. I have experienced much of the Divine Goodness. Deo Opt. Max. Grates.

#### GEN. GATES'S DIPLOMA, LL.D.

Senatus Academiae Cantabrigiensis in Novanglia, Omnibus ad quos Literæ præsentēs pervenerint in Christo fidelibus, Salutem in Domino sempiternam.

Cum eum in finem Gradus academici instituti fuerint, ut Viri Disciplina, Sapientia, et Virtute insignes, qui vel de Re literariâ vel de Republica optime meruerint, Honoribus laureatis remunerarentur; maxime decet, quod hujusmodi honore afficiatur Vir ille admodum honorabilis, de Republica americana optime meritis, HORATIUS GATES, Armiger, Exercitus nostri nuper Septentrionalis Imperator, cujus Peritiæ Artis bellicæ, et erga Patriam nostram Amoris per regiones americanas undequaque percrebuit fama, Vir ille insignis Copias totius Britannici Exercitus magna ex parte lectissimas, ad numerum decem Millium, Duce Burgoyne, per Iter Canadense ad Impetum in Novangliam faciendum missas, variis præliis profligavit, totumque tandem Exercitum reliquum die Octobris XVII, A.S. MDCLXXVII Conventione Saratogana in Deditionem coegit. Hujus Deditionis pacto, quas insolentissime minitabatur Burgoyne, iis direptionibus liberata fuit Novanglia; & omnibus fere pacis muneribus inde usque delectata; dum interea Reipublicæ partes ad austrum vergentes, nobiscum fraterno vinculo conjunctæ, Hostis immisericordis Rapinas perferebant. Eadem deditio hujus nostræ Universitatis Juventuti ad optimas Artes colendas "hæc otia fecit."

Sciatis igitur, quod nos Præses et Socii Collegii Harvardini, consentientibus honorandis admodum ac Reverendis Academiae nostræ Inspectoribus, Dominum supra nominatum HORATIUM GATES Juris utriusque tum *Naturæ & Gentium*, tum *Civilis* Doctorem statuimus et creavimus; eique dedimus atque concessimus omnia Jura, Privilegia, Dignitates ac Honores, quibus ad istiusmodi Gradum uspiam Gentium evecti ornari debent.

In cujus Rei Testimonium, communi Universitatis Sigillo hisce Literis appenso,  
Nos Præses & Socii die XVIII Junij Anno Salutis humanæ MDCCLXXIX  
apposuimus Chirographa.

|         |                                   |          |
|---------|-----------------------------------|----------|
|         | SAMUEL LANGDON S.T.D. Præses.     |          |
|         | JACOBUS BOWDOIN                   |          |
|         | SAMUEL COOPER S.T.D.              |          |
| [L. s.] | EDUARDUS WIGGLESWORTH S.T.P. Hol. | } Socii. |
|         | CALEB GANNETT Math. & phil. Præc. |          |
|         | JOHANNUS LATHROP V.D.M.           |          |
|         | EBENEZER STORER Thesaurarius      |          |

#### RECTOR PIERSON'S EPITAPH.

Here lieth the  
Body of y<sup>e</sup> Rev<sup>d</sup>  
Mr. Abra<sup>h</sup> Pierson  
The first Rector  
of y<sup>e</sup> Colledge  
In Connecticut  
who deceased  
March y<sup>e</sup> 5<sup>th</sup> 1706/7  
Aged 61 years.

Copied from his Gravestone in Killingworth Burying yard, Sept. 18, 1779, by Ezra Stiles. I viewed the Remnant of the Build<sup>e</sup> in Killingworth about ten rods East of the Meetinghouse, commonly called *the old or first College*, being Rector Pierson's House, in which he lived & the Scholars resided & studied the first five years till his Death, when the students were removed to Saybrook. It was a double two story house now converted into a Barn. The Rector's Grave is on the W. side of the Bury<sup>e</sup>place on the Ministry Lot & perhaps a dozen rods N<sup>o</sup> of the Meetinghouse.

#### MEMOIR OF JEMIMA WILKINSON.<sup>1</sup>

When I was at Narraganset Sept. 24, 1779 I heard much about Jemima who calls herself the *Public Universal Friend*. She is now æt. 21 & more, & came forth about 3 y. ago or 1776. After a Series of Weakness Infirm<sup>y</sup> & Sickness she says she died & is no more Jemima Wilkinson. But upon her Restoration, which was sudden, the person of Jesus Christ came forth & now appears in her body with all the miraculous Powers of the Messiah. She preached a while against Sin War & fighting—with Liberty went

<sup>1</sup> For a full account of Jemima Wilkinson and her disciples, see Cleveland's *History of Yates County, N. Y.*, i, 38-138.

into Newport, where hear<sup>s</sup> the British asperse the Rebels, she told them publickly in the streets that those they called Rebels were not so great rebels as those profane persons were; for the one were rebels only against an Earthly King, they against the great King of Heaven. Com<sup>s</sup> out of Newp<sup>t</sup> she goes about preach<sup>s</sup> & warning all, declar<sup>s</sup> if they reject the Truth they will incurr everlast<sup>s</sup> Damnation.

. Judge W<sup>m</sup> Potter of S<sup>o</sup> Kingston & his fam<sup>y</sup> are among her Converts. I saw & conversed with him. M<sup>rs</sup> Marchant lodged at Judge Potter's Sept. 24, and conversed with the Judge's Daughter Hazzard æt. 21 and heard her pray &c. In her prayers she addresses the public Friend whom she says is omnipresent, & calls her *Messiah* & herself her *Prophet*—she says Jemima is the *son of G<sup>d</sup>* and *the Messiah reappear<sup>d</sup>* in flesh; *the son of G<sup>d</sup> whom the Father hath put to Death*; that whosoever shall believe on Jemima shall be saved, but whoever shall not believe that Jemima or the Public Univ. Friend is Jesus Christ the Savior, and herself his Prophet shall be everlastingly damned. That the Univ. friend has anointed her (Alice Haz<sup>d</sup>) to be a prophet, and accord<sup>y</sup> she predicts the day of Judg<sup>t</sup> to come in half a year. The Prophet began to think and be concerned last Spring (1779) & began to prophecy beginning of Sept. or 3 Weeks ago. That Jemima has ordained 12 Disciples and is to come into Narraganset again the 17<sup>th</sup> of October next, & now current.

Last spring Judge Potter had a son æt. 17, taken insane & raving & is so to this day. M<sup>rs</sup> Potter the Mother has heretofore had a season of Distraction. I suppose a Fit of Lunacy or Insanity is taking place upon her Daughter M<sup>rs</sup> Hazzard—& am inclined to suppose the Sickness of Jémima 3 y. ago has left her under a Tinge of Insanity. M<sup>rs</sup> Haz<sup>d</sup> at first prayed 3 times a day Morn<sup>g</sup>. Noon & Night, now as the Sp<sup>t</sup> moves—when she & the whole Fam<sup>y</sup> devoutly prostrate themselves on their knees—tho' the Fam<sup>y</sup> being Quakers are unused to fam<sup>y</sup> social prayer. She a few days since went in to her Brother & found him asleep & chained—she undertook to cast out the Devil—accordingly all the Comp<sup>a</sup> kneeling she prostrated herself upon him, putting her mouth to his face and prayed till he awoke and arose, when she said she had cast out seven Devils from her Brother—& at another time shd cast out the rest.

M<sup>rs</sup> Wilk. & M<sup>rs</sup> Haz<sup>d</sup> use the plain Language as Quakers—yet



the former in Convers<sup>a</sup> with Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Eeles of Stonington owned & allowed *Water Baptism*, holding it however as indifferent. It was said she called herself the *Comforter*, but M<sup>r</sup> Eeles s<sup>d</sup> she did not mean she was the holy Ghost, but raised up by G<sup>d</sup> to give Comfort to his people. She is for harmonizing & gathering all Sects under herself. Lately at Dighton Jemima began the miracle of heal<sup>s</sup> the sick, a woman long confined to her bed by Infirmities. A comp<sup>a</sup> gathered—Jemima raised the Woman (who had great faith in her) from off her bed & led her across the room which she had not done long before. But when the Miracle had proceeded thus far M<sup>rs</sup> Dagget a noisy religionist began a warm Dispute with Jemima, & she left the Miracle unfinished and poor Mrs ——— Limbs are as fixt as ever & she returned to her Confinem<sup>t</sup> in bed: this I had from one present.

Some difficulty arises as to the sex — a Woman claiming to be the Messiah the Son of G<sup>d</sup>. Accord<sup>y</sup> Alice makes it a Quest. whether she is a Woman?—for since her Resurrection (says Alice) it is no more Jemima but Jesus Christ—and again Jemima has altered her apparel, & appears dressed like a Man in a long Habit or Vestment com<sup>s</sup> up round the neck & tied there with a Ribband. Alice often betrays Ignorance of the Scriptures, but Jemima answers Questions with Dexterity and cautious Subtilty. Jemima was born in Cumberland, in Rh. Island. The first of her com<sup>s</sup> out was at Swanzy. I heard of her when I lived at Dighton 1776. Murray came forth preach<sup>s</sup> universal Salvation as with Authority from God. Jemima comes forth preach<sup>s</sup> Blasphemy. These things may be wisely ordered in Providence, to convince people of comparing all things with the sure word of Prophecy. Jemima & her Followers will soon convince the public that their Preach<sup>s</sup> is founded in Delusion & Insanity! would to G<sup>d</sup> it might be so with Murrays Errors!

These Entries from my Itinerary made Oct. 30. 1779.

President Witherspoon held a Commencement at Nassau Hall the latter End of September, & graduated half a dozen.

Pagets Christianography was published A.D. 1639 & 1640. Speak<sup>s</sup> of Virginia he says “there have been sent to this place about *fourty Thousd* people, who have many Chhs, Ministers & Schools &c.” Speak<sup>s</sup> of N. Engl<sup>d</sup> or N<sup>o</sup> Virg. he says “there are about *fourty Thousd* English—*fourty* several Plant<sup>a</sup>, *thirty* Chhs & sixty Ministers.” Maryland Papists & Prot. mixt.

N. B. New Engl<sup>d</sup> not above 20 Th. souls in 1640.

21. I received M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Robinsons Resign<sup>a</sup> of the Tutorship. I desired M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich Tutor Elect to assist in exam<sup>s</sup> freshmen & do the business of a Tutor till I should be able to introduce him into Office. He took his place in the Tutor's Seat this Evening. Admitted M<sup>r</sup> Searls extraordinary son æt. 16 into the Junior Class. I admitted at Dighton Henry Chan<sup>s</sup> into the Jun. Class: and M<sup>r</sup> Rob. admitted conditionally Dana into the Sophomore Class. These three hav<sup>e</sup> never been at any College. I appointed Hooker a Waiter in the Hall.

22. Began Recitations & Commons this day, 41 in Commons. . . . I brot home one Load of Goods, and am collect<sup>s</sup> my family, dispersed ever since 5<sup>th</sup> July last. We have a large Class of Freshmen, already 50. The present No. of the Classes

|                   |                    |    |
|-------------------|--------------------|----|
|                   | Seniors . . . .    | 30 |
| [Tot Undergrad.   | Juniors . . . .    | 28 |
| Harv. Coll. 120.] | Sophimores . . . . | 30 |
|                   | Freshmen . . . .   | 50 |

Total . . . . 138 Undergraduates

23. I gave the Seniors Charge of the Freshmen. Appointed Robinson of the Sen. Class Monitor.<sup>1</sup>

24. Ldsdy. Confined at home by my Wounds.

25. Introduced M<sup>r</sup> Chauncy Goodrich into the Tutorship publicly in the Chapel about IV<sup>th</sup> P.M. He publicly assented to the Confession of Faith, and I administered to him the Oath of Fidelity to this State. I committed to him the Freshmen. Previous to this he was examined on Religion by myself & Professor Daggett, Tutors Atwater & Lockwood Present but as hearers only. So the present Tutors & Officers of Instruction, are

|                                                           |            |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|------------|
| The President . . . .                                     | Seniors    |
| Rev. D <sup>r</sup> Daggett Professor of Div <sup>y</sup> |            |
| Rev. Neh. Strong Prof. Math. &c                           |            |
| Mr. Noah Atwater, Sen. Tutor . .                          | Juniors    |
| M <sup>r</sup> W <sup>m</sup> Lockwood . . . .            | Sophimores |
| M <sup>r</sup> Chauncy Goodrich . . . .                   | Freshmen   |

<sup>1</sup> An additional note under this date, in Pres. Stiles's College memoranda, is as follows: This day settled with &c for gardening. I had agreed for £3. 15. 0, old way made good: His neglects great—we agreed 55/ @ 20 for 1, & 2 or 3 doll. for seed; So gave order on Steward for £36. Continental for Gardening one season.

26. Above 50 in Commons. I appointed Williams 3 Waiter in the Hall. Admitted Weed 50<sup>th</sup> Freshman. Brot home last Load Goods from Carmel. Yesterday Benjamin Pitman æt. 13. came to live with me for 2 years. This day at Noon we saw a large Fleet of above an hundred Sail passing by the Harbor of N. Haven & stand<sup>s</sup> slowly to the Westward: supposed to be from Rhode Isld. Sailed by Moonlight. Plenilunium.

27. I appointed Baldwin a third Waiter the number increasing in the Hall: also Porter a fourth for first half year, then Honeywood to end of the year. Professor Strong exhibited his Lecture this Afternoon, which I attended.

28. Reported that the Enemy evacuated Newport last Monday. About 80 Undergraduates actually convened. Cornel & Selden 1 speaks for Waitership next year. Breed 1 asks Dismission for Want of Money to finish his Education. I had no Lecture. By an Advertisement of 2<sup>d</sup> Oct Ins<sup>t</sup>. President Witherspoon notifies Jersey College, Nassau Hall to meet at Princeton 8 Nov. next: and says their Undergrad., not exceeding *ten*, have been constantly attended by himself or M<sup>r</sup> Houston during the last Session: that the College Repairs are in forwardness &c.

Certain News that Newp<sup>t</sup> was evacuated & Gen. Gates took possession of it last Monday: and also that the En<sup>y</sup> have left Verplanks P<sup>t</sup>. & the whole N<sup>y</sup> River & retired into N. York.

29. "The Expedition of G. Sullivan ag<sup>t</sup> the Indians has been crowned with complete Success; *fourty of their Towns* have been reduced to Ashes; one of them (Genessee) contained about *One hundred & twenty eight Houses* (Wigwaums), all their Corn destroyed computed to amo<sup>t</sup> to *one hundred & sixty Thousd Bushels*.—The whole Country of the *Senecas* & other Tribes of Six Nations has been overrun & destroyed, & they compelled to fly to Niagara for Security. And all this done with the Loss of less than *fourty* men on our part, including killed, wounded, taken, & those who died natural deaths,—Col. Broadhead who commanded a party from fort Pitt, has penetrated the Indian Country laying on the Alleghany River 180 miles, burnt *ten* of the Muncey & Seneca Towns in that Quarter containing 165 Houses, & destroyed all their fields of Corn computed to be *five hundred Acres*, with—3 men slightly wounded." The Western Army under G. Sullivan perhaps *five thousand*.

30. More News about Rh. Isld. Great has been the preparation



from Boston to Virginia of Men &c to cooperate with the French Fleet under D'Estaing; but there are no certain Accounts that this Fleet has been this side Charlestown S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. The Expect<sup>a</sup> of it however has doubtless been as good as an Addition of Ten Thousand Men to the Continental Army, and has caused the British Forces everyway to draw into N. York. I appointed *Bostwick* a Monitor. A religious Meeting set up among the Scholars this Evening.<sup>1</sup>

31. Ldsdy. I tarried at home all day, not recovered &c. Reading Smith's Plea for Christianity, & examining sundry Texts in the Hebrew Bible. . . . .

### November

1. Admitted Williston into the Freshmen Class. Total of Undergrad. 139 of which 88 are present & 70 in Commons.

|         |    |        |                  |
|---------|----|--------|------------------|
| Seniors | 14 | Absent | [ 9 abs. Nov. 6. |
| Juniors | 8  |        | 7                |
| Soph.   | 12 |        | 5                |
| Fr. . . | 17 |        | 12               |

51 Absent Nov. 1. 33.] . . .

Mr. Guild<sup>2</sup> Tutor of Harvard College visited us this day. He has been to Philad<sup>a</sup> & is planning an Academy of Sciences for Massachusetts.<sup>3</sup> I had much Convers<sup>a</sup> with him upon this as well as upon an Acad<sup>y</sup> of Sciences I am meditating for Connecticut. He tells me the Total of Undergraduates at Harvard College this year is about 120, of which the Freshmen Class 29.

2. . . . Yesterday the Seniors disputed syllogistically at my House on the Question, An Mens semper cogitat? This day forensically, Whether there are Innate Ideas?

3. Rev. Mr. Hopkins here in his Way to Newport. The Seniors are but half thro' Philosophy, & are recit<sup>e</sup> to me Martins Phil.<sup>4</sup> middle 2<sup>d</sup> vol.

<sup>1</sup> The entry on a separate sheet of College memoranda reads: "Woodbridge & others set up a religious Meeting." The leader was William Woodbridge, of the Senior class, who became a noted teacher.

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Guild (Harvard 1769), afterwards a bookseller in Boston.

<sup>3</sup> "The American Academy of Arts and Sciences," here referred to, was incorporated in May, 1780. Mr. Guild was one of the incorporators.

<sup>4</sup> The *Philosophical Grammar* of Benjamin Martin (b. 1704, d. 1782), a popular text-book of Physics, first published in 1735.

4. . . . There are 101 Undergraduates in Town. I appointed Sheldon Butlers Waiter ; he rings the Bell as such. No Lecture.

5. From 25<sup>th</sup> of Oct. to 29<sup>th</sup> there was a mighty Movement & Parade of the British Army. They evacuated *Newpt* on 25<sup>th</sup> & *Stony & Verplank* Points on North River the and were all withdrawn into N. York by 27<sup>th</sup>. The Tory fleet of perhaps 20 Vessels plundering & wooding at the Vinyard, joyned the Transports &c at *Newp<sup>t</sup>*, which with a dozen or 15 sail of *Newp<sup>t</sup>* Vessels, made up a fleet of about an *hundred Sail* great & small. While from the Eastward & Northward they were withdrawing into N. York, Gen. Clinton (that he might not seem to have had a totally inactive Campaign) sent out a large Army on an Excursion into the Jersies. About 100 light Dragoons commanded by Lt. Col. Simes landed at Amboy Tuesday Oct. 26 and proceeded to Millstone, burned the Church at Rariton, Somerset Courthouse &c returned immed<sup>y</sup>. Col. Simcoe taken.

M<sup>r</sup> Baldwin late Tutor returned hither from a Journey to Piscataqua. He was at Provid. last Saturday, says he was shewn a List of about thirty Tories which went off in the Fleet, that G. Gates has given the Episc<sup>o</sup> Church in *Newp<sup>t</sup>* to the Baptists for present Use. About 40 Tories taken up in *Newp<sup>t</sup>* & put in Prison.

6. Betsy returned from Hartford hav<sup>g</sup> lived in Col. Wyllys's Family ever since last June.<sup>1</sup>

At Dartm<sup>o</sup> Commencement Aug<sup>t</sup> last, Col. John Wheelock presided & gave Degrees, but without declar<sup>g</sup> his Accept<sup>a</sup> of the Presidency. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Macclure one of the Trustees in a Letter dated 24 Oct. writes me : "The Presidents Chair at Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. continues vacant. The Person who was first in the List, declined giving an Answer or declaring his Acceptance. It is thot I believe by some of his Friends that he will not accept. The Choice then falls on M<sup>r</sup> Huntington, who I apprehend sustains a Character among the Friends & Advocates of Learning & Religion that will give Reput<sup>a</sup> to that young sylvan Seat of the Muses, should the College be so happy as to obtain him. It's funds for present Support are very inconsiderable. The Times have affected the College & lessened the N<sup>o</sup> of Students.—To keep it alive until good Providence gives us to see happier Days will perhaps be as much as can be done." Col. Wheelock (John) entered Yale College, but finished

<sup>1</sup> Both Col. Geo. Wyllys (Yale 1758) and his wife were second cousins of President Stiles, whose mother's mother was Ruth Wyllys.

his Educ<sup>a</sup> at Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. where he graduated in the first Class 1771. He afterwards became Tutor there; His Fathers Death found him in the Army where G. Gates had given him a Colonelcy. Last Spring he left the Army and repaired to the College, where by the Charter & his Fathers Will (if he accepts) he is Presid<sup>t</sup> till disallowed by the Trustees. He does not yet accept, suspend<sup>e</sup> the matter till he can find whether he shd be approved by the Trustees.<sup>1</sup>

7. Ldsdy. I attended A.M. in Chapel, when Professor Dagget preached on I Tim. 1, *This is a faithful Saying* &c. Sacrament administered to Nine Communicants—altho' above Eighty Undergrad. at Meeting. I was unable to attend Public Worship in the Afternoon.

8. The Seniors disputed, *Etsi nulla esset Vita futura tamen Virtus esset colenda.* Barnet Respondente. Admitted Orchard Gould into the Freshman Class. . . . .

There have been 3 Western Expeditions this Campaign carrying War into the Bowels of the Indian Countries from North to South.

I. To the VI Nations by Gen. Sullivan & perhaps 4000 Men. These destroyed every Ind. Town & settlem<sup>t</sup> among the five Nations. "The Numb. of Towns destroyed by this Army amounts to *fourty*.—the Quant<sup>y</sup> of Corn destroyed—160,000 Bushels.—Except one T<sup>o</sup>—not a single T<sup>o</sup> left in the Country of the 5 Nations," says G. Sullivan, who pursued almost to Niagara. This Army returned to Teoga Sept. 30 & to Easton middle October.

II. Army of *Six hundred* marched fr. Pittsburgh 11 Aug. with one Months Provisions for Cusenshing &c Buchaloons & 20 miles beyond. Burned Eight Towns on Ohio River & six hundred Acres Corn. Returned to Pittsburg Sept. 14, in 33 days compleat<sup>e</sup> March of four hundred miles. Plunder Thirty Thousd. Dollars.

III. Against the Cherokees, Also successful. Gen. Williamson & 1000.

9. The Senior Class disputed forensically, Whether the present War be lawful on the side of America? Books recited by the several Classes at my Accession to the Presidency.

#### Freshman Class.

Virgilius, Ciceronis Orationes, Greek Test<sup>a</sup>, Wards Arithmetic.

<sup>1</sup> The matter was finally settled by the Trustees expressing, in September, 1780, satisfaction in Colonel Wheelock's continuance.



## Sophomore Class.

Graecum Test., Horatius, Lowths Eng. Grammar, Watts' Logic, Guthrie's Geography, Hammonds Algebra, Holmes Rhetorick, Wards Geometry, Vincent's Catechism Saturdays, Wards Math.

## Junior Class.

Wards Trigonometry, Atkinson & Wilson D<sup>o</sup>, Græc. Test<sup>a</sup>, Cic. de Oratore, Martin's Phil. Grammar & Philosophy 3 vol.<sup>1</sup> Vincent Saturdays.

## Senior Class.

Locke Human Understand<sup>g</sup>, Wollaston's Rel. Nat. delineated, & for Saturdays Wollebius. Amesij Medulla, Græc. Test. (or Edwds on the Will sometime discontinued). Presid<sup>t</sup> Claps Ethics. . . . .

Admitted Isaac Griggs of Westbury into the Freshman class.

10. Admitted Beck into the Sophomore class. I have admitted this year 56 of which 52 into Freshman Class. There are now 141 Undergrad. in the four Classes. Received a packet from the Hon. Roger Sherman, Esq. in Congress. Attended Professor Strongs Mathematical Lecture.

Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stephen Williams<sup>1</sup> sent me & I received this day an antient printed Theses of Harv. Coll. Commencement July 9, 1670, President Chauncys day : dedicated thus,

"Viris Autoritate Præcipuis, Prudentia celeberrimis

|                              |                  |             |              |              |
|------------------------------|------------------|-------------|--------------|--------------|
| RICHARDO BELLINGHAMO         | } confederatarum | MASATHUSET. | } Primatibus |              |
| Venerandis JOHANNI WINTHROPO |                  | N. ANGLIÆ   |              | CONNECTICUT. |
| THOMÆ PRINCEO                |                  | Coloniarum  |              | PLIMOUTHEN.  |

Unâ cum omnibus in Regimine Politico in singulis Colonis probè constitutis. Nec minus Reverendis Reipublicæ nostræ Ecclesiasticæ Rectoribus, Sacrorum Mystagogis, quibuscunque etiam exiguis nostræ Academiæ cœptis benigne annuentibus, Artibus Scientiisque liberalibus Πολυμαθεσι & Φιλομαθεσι.

Vobis, ut Literarum Patronis, Theses hasce submissi quas (aspirante Deo) sub tutelâ Caroli Chauncæi SS. Theol. Bac. Collegii Harvardini Præsidis, propugnandas suscepimus Juvenes in Artibus Tyrones.

Nathaniel Higginson  
Ammi Ruhamah Cortlett


Thomas Clark  
Georgius Burrough } D. D. D. Q.


Theses Technologicæ, 7  
Logicæ, 17


Mathematicæ, 8  
Physicæ, 9

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, June 3, 1779.

Grammaticæ, 8  
Rhetoricæ, 6

 Non datur Transmutatio Elementorum.

 Anima Rationalis creatur.  
Ethicæ, 12

 Ethica est Species distincta à Theologia.

Cantabrigiæ Nov-Angliæ die nono Sextilis Anno M.DC.LXX."

11. . . . Dr. Dagget had an extraordinary Divinity Lecture in the Chapel this afternoon; being ill I did not attend.

12. I appointed for Dec. Quarter Exhibitions, Barnet Lat. & Woodb. Eng. Orators; Nott, Tyler, & Tomlinson 1 Dialogists. Present in College 110 Undergraduates out of 140. Lyman has sent to ask a Dismission his Estate being insufficient to proceed in his Education.

In conversation with M<sup>r</sup> Wheaton last month, he gave me a List of all the Candidates for the Ministry actual preachers in Harv. Coll. Catalogue from 1763 to 1779.

|                                                        |                                |
|--------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1763 M <sup>r</sup> Tutor Gannett                      | 1773 M <sup>r</sup> Stearns    |
| 1769 M <sup>r</sup> Tutor Guild                        | 1774 M <sup>r</sup> Allen      |
| 1770 M <sup>r</sup> Mellen                             | M <sup>r</sup> Tutor Eliot     |
| M <sup>r</sup> A. Hutchinson                           | M <sup>r</sup> Wheaton         |
| M <sup>r</sup> Goddard                                 | 1775 M <sup>r</sup> Thatcher   |
| 1771 M <sup>r</sup> Ballantine                         | 1776 M <sup>r</sup> Daniels    |
| M <sup>r</sup> Wheeler                                 | M <sup>r</sup> Morey           |
| M <sup>r</sup> Parsons                                 | M <sup>r</sup> Prince          |
| M <sup>r</sup> Allen                                   | M <sup>r</sup> Hubbard         |
| 1772 M <sup>r</sup> Eliot [settled in B <sup>o</sup> ] | M <sup>r</sup> Payson          |
| M <sup>r</sup> Haven                                   | 1777 M <sup>r</sup> Smith      |
| M <sup>r</sup> Badcock                                 | 1778 M <sup>r</sup> Savage 24. |

Last year we had about fifty Cand. on Yale Coll. Catalogue. Perhaps 15 or 20 Dart. Coll. Catalogue. It seems as if there are fewer than 90 Candidates in N. Engld, in which there may be 250 Vacant Chhs. & Congregations. The good Lord raise up & send forth Laborers into his Vineyard.

14. Ldsdy. I attended divine service in the Chapel. Professor Dagget preached all day upon the divine Attribute of *Wisdom*, from Eph. iii, 10. Present about 90.

15. The Seniors disputed syllogistically—Nulla Deceptio est licita.—Polly came home from Meriden. I have received of my

Salary £ 700 since June: Begin<sup>d</sup> Dec. next or for first half year will be due at least £ 1000 more: as Exchange is above 20 to 25 for 1, & my Sal<sup>y</sup> £ 160 old way. I had one foretooth beat out by my fall 18<sup>th</sup> ult & this day I lost a second. Old Age!

16. Seniors forensic Disputation—Whether Virtue would be eligible without the Rewards of Eternity. Received a Letter from Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins dated Newp<sup>b</sup> 10<sup>th</sup> Inst. About 40 Tories imprisoned. My Meetinghouse & Dwell<sup>g</sup>house standing but injured. Inhabitants dejected!

17. A number of Physicians from the Extreme parts of the States of Mass. Connect. & N. York in the Vicinity of Sharon in Connect. convened at Sharon July 5, 1779 and spontaneously formed a Fraternity by the Name of *the Medical Society of Sharon*. This day Professor Strong gave his Lecture.

20. For several days we have had flying Reports of the Repulse of our forces at Savanna in Georgia the beginning of last month. We have it now confirmed by Gen. Lincolns Aid de Camp; and that Count Destaign's Fleet has left Georgia & gone to the W. Indies. Judge Law<sup>l</sup> has asked a Dismission for his two Sons in the Senior Class on Account of the Difficulty [& Expences] of subsist<sup>g</sup> them.

Upon the Expect<sup>n</sup> of Count destaign's fleet to arrive at N. York, Congress, Gen. Washington & the Assemblies from Virginia to N. Hamp. exerted themselves joyntly, in rais<sup>g</sup> a large additional Body of Troops to cooperate with the Count either at Newport or N. York or wherever he shd arrive. This State voted 4000. It had an Effect equal to adding Ten Thousd to the Continental Army, for it obliged the En<sup>y</sup> to evacuate North River & Rh. Isld. It was an high Stratagem! a wiley Manœuvre! I all the while knew *Destaign* was not com<sup>d</sup> here. He came to Georgia and is returned.

21. Ldsdy. I attended in Chapel. Professor Dagget preached all day upon the *divine Sovereignty* from I Chron. xxix, 10, 11.

22. Mr. Moody<sup>2</sup> Master of Dummer School here. He tells me that Mr. Jno. Adams Plenipotentiary to treat with Britain (if she see cause to treat) saild last Monday from Boston for France accompanied with Hon. Francis Dana, Esq. Sec<sup>y</sup> to the Embassy.

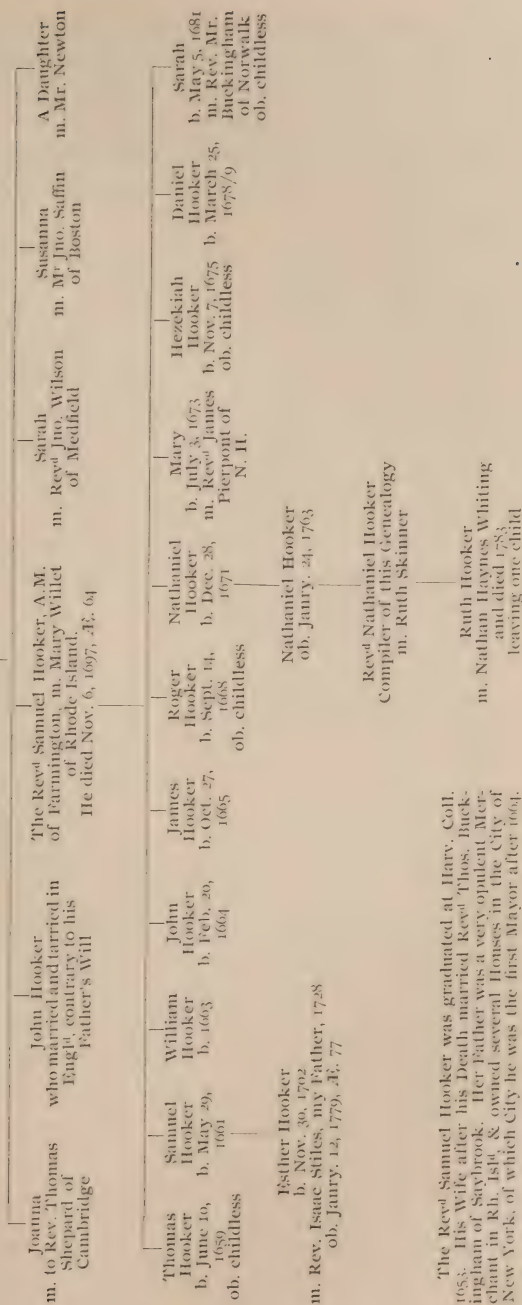
<sup>1</sup> The Hon. Richard Law (Yale 1751), of New London, Conn.

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Moody (Harvard 1746).



GENEALOGY OF THE FAMILY OF HOOKER. EXTRACTED FROM MSS. OF REV<sup>d</sup> NATHANIEL HOOKER.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> THOMAS HOOKER, A.M., first Minister of Hartford,  
born at Marshfield in England, A.D. 1586, died at Hartfd., N. H.  
July 7, 1647, AÆ. 61.



23. Gen. Gates & his Contin. Regts. have left Rh. Isld & are marched thro' Hartfd to joyn the Army on Hudson's River. Yesterday the Disput<sup>a</sup> omitted, to-day attended. Chester 2<sup>d</sup> Respondent, Omne quod evenit est optimum. . . .

24. Seniors forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>—Whether Oratory be of public Utility to the State? I attended Professor Strong's Lecture on the Laws of Motion.

25. I exhibited my Lect. upon Ecc. History, being a summary & cursory View of Christendom from the third Century to the Reformation, preparatory to an Entrance on the second Division of my Lectures, the subject of which is to be the Reformation. . . .

26. I am informed that Col. John Wheelock ætat. 26, has accepted the Presidency of Dartmouth College. There are about or under *thirty* Undergraduates in that College, and about 50 in the School. M<sup>r</sup> Smith a young Professor of the learned Languages is the only Tutor. Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ripley formerly Tutor has the School. The present Trustees of the College are

|                                                      |                  |
|------------------------------------------------------|------------------|
| Hon. Theodore Atkinson Esq. of Portsm <sup>o</sup> . |                  |
| Hon. George Jaffrey Esq.                             | D <sup>o</sup> . |
| John Phillips Esq. LL.D.                             | Exeter.          |
| Bezaleel Woodward Esq.                               | Dresden.         |
| Rev. Benj <sup>a</sup> Pumroy, DD.                   | Connecticut.     |
| Rev. Eden Burroughs                                  | Hanover.         |
| Col. Payne                                           |                  |
| Rev. Sylvanus Ripley                                 | Dresden.         |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Phillips Esq.                       | Massach.         |
| Rev. David Macclure                                  | Hampton.         |

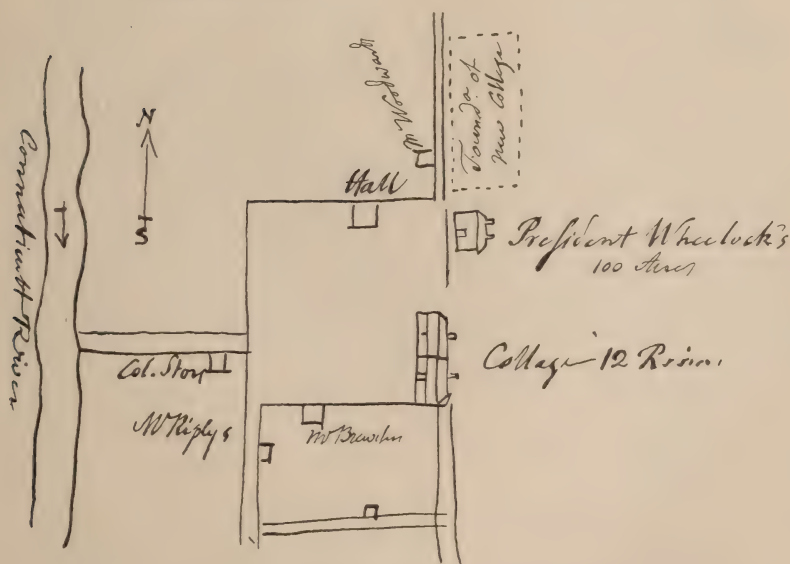
Of these Col. Atkinson & D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy are clearly for Col. Wheelock. My Idea of the rest is, that they are all against him, & would negative him, & elect M<sup>r</sup> Huntington or some other Person, had they a present Support. But as his Father has left him his Dwellinghouse & a fine Estate so that he can live with but little Subsistence from the College, I believe the Trustees will let him remain. It is said that from great Gaiety he has become mighty grave, is studying Divinity, endeavors to ingratiate himself with the Scholars & to this end has erected a fence round the College & has painted the College Rooms at his own Expence.

"Thou knowest, o Lord, that thy servant has no sinister end, and no other motive than thy Glory." An expression constantly used by D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock in his prayer in family, respecting his School.

From a hasty & cursory Numer<sup>a</sup> of the College Catalogue I find the follow<sup>g</sup> decennary Numbers educated & graduated in New Engl<sup>d</sup>. since the beginning of the present Century or the last 80 years. . . . .

Tot. educated & grad. at 3 N. E. Colleges inclusive ad eundems.

|                              |           |               |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Harv. 1642 to 1779 incl.     | . . . . . | 2784          |
| Yale 1702 to D <sup>o</sup>  | . . . . . | 1662          |
| Dart. 1771 to D <sup>o</sup> | . . . . . | 121           |
|                              |           | <hr/>         |
|                              |           | 4567 of which |
| Living AD. 1780              | . . . . . | 2600          |



[Sketch of Dartmouth College by Dr. Stiles.]

Decennary Numbers from A.D. 1700 to A. D. 1780 or

| 80 Years.    | Harv.   | Yale    | Dart. | Total. |
|--------------|---------|---------|-------|--------|
| To A.D. 1710 | . . 123 | . . 36  | . .   | 159    |
| 1720         | . . 144 | . . 47  | . .   | 191    |
| 1730         | . . 350 | . . 135 | . .   | 485    |
| 1740         | . . 326 | . . 177 | . .   | 503    |
| 1750         | . . 242 | . . 222 | . .   | 462    |
| 1760         | . . 256 | . . 274 | . .   | 530    |
| 1770         | . . 413 | . . 338 | . .   | 751    |
| 1780         | . . 406 | . . 316 | 90    | 812    |
|              |         |         |       | <hr/>  |
|              |         |         |       | 3893   |



In A.D. 1760 the Total of Inhabitants in the four New Engld. Governments was *half a Million Souls*: now 1779 above three Quarters of a Million.<sup>1</sup>

The momentous æra of Amer. Independance has found above two Thousd Men of Liberal Education living at this Time in New Engl<sup>d</sup> only. For the last 20 years only there have been educated 2100 in the 3 N. Engl<sup>d</sup> Colleges, of which now 1779 are dead 145 and are living above 1950. The Graduates in the Catalogues of the 3 Colleges now living are nearly thus.

|                    |   |   |   |   |   |                               |
|--------------------|---|---|---|---|---|-------------------------------|
| Harvard            | . | . | . | . | . | 1367 inclusive of ad eundems. |
| Yale               | . | . | . | . | . | 1118 + 31                     |
| Dartm <sup>o</sup> | . | . | . | . | . | 118                           |

2603 Living A.D. 1779.

28. Ldsdy. I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Williston at West Haven he being gone to marry a Wife at Northampton.<sup>2</sup> A.M. Jno. xiv, 21. P.M. Amos iv, 12. A considerable Snow last friday.

29. For a few weeks about 4500 Connect. Militia have been stationed along the Connect. Sea coast. This day Gen. Ward & about five hundred Militia came into this T<sup>o</sup> fr. Stratf<sup>d</sup>. They are stationed here for the present, as the Enemy's fleet is at Huntington on L. Isld. The state of College now

|          |   |   |   |            |          |
|----------|---|---|---|------------|----------|
| Seniors  | . | . | . | 22 present | 6 absent |
| Juniors  | . | . | . | 23         | 5        |
| Soph.    | . | . | . | 29         | 1        |
| Freshmen | . | . | . | 44         | 8        |

118 present.

30. Dismissed Law 1 & 2. Yesterday the Seniors disputed An Dictamina Conscientiæ semper sint obtemperanda? And this day they disputed forensically, Whether Self Interest be the only or highest Principle of Moral Action?

December.

1. I attended Professor Strong's Phil. Lecture. My Salary reduced to Articles one Quarter each is thus

<sup>1</sup> These figures are probably slightly too large; the population for 1760 was not far from 465,000; for 1779 perhaps about 725,000.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Noah Williston (Yale 1757) married as his third wife, on November 25, 1779, Widow Eunice Hall, daughter of John Lyman, of Middletown, Conn.

|                             |          |          |                         |
|-----------------------------|----------|----------|-------------------------|
| £40 in Pork @ 24/ per cwt.  | equal to | 33.33 or | 33 $\frac{1}{3}$ cwt.   |
| 40 in Beef @ 18/ per cwt.   |          | 44.44    | 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ cwt.   |
| 40 in Wheat @ 4/6 per Bush. |          | 177.77   | 177 $\frac{2}{3}$ Bush. |
| 40 in Corn @ 2/3 per Bush.  |          | 355.55   | 355 $\frac{1}{2}$ Bush. |

2. I had no Lect. this day it being stormy Snow, & at night Rain & violent Thunder. The Seniors finished reciting the second Vol. of Martin's Philosophy.

3. Seniors began 3<sup>d</sup> Vol. Martins Nat. Phil.

4. Col. Root returned from Congress, & bro't me a Letter from his Excell<sup>y</sup> Sam<sup>l</sup> Huntington Esq. President of Congress. . . . .

5. Ldsdy. I attended & partook of the Sacrament in the Chapel, present nine Communicants, there being no more in College except 2 absent Tutors who preach in neighboring Parishes to day. Professor Dagget preached 2 Cor. vi, 1. Excessively rigorous Season: severe snow Storm—I did not go to Meeting in Afternoon. My daughter Polly this day finished Reading the Bible the third Time & began again: She was 12 years old 25<sup>th</sup> last August.

The new Divinity Gentlemen, & part<sup>y</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins, hold that the Text Rom. ix, 3, *for I could &c accursed from X &c*, proves that S<sup>t</sup> Paul was willing to suffer eternal Damnation if the will of G<sup>d</sup>, the good of the Universe required it. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Farrand of Canaan here last Week interprets that Text thus—For I did once wish myself accursed from X thro' my Attatchm<sup>t</sup> to my Brethren &c, observing that *ἡννοχουν* is in past time: he once gloried in being *αναθεμα* separated from Jesus of Nazareth whom he did not believe to be the true Christ or Messiah. . . . .

Professor Dagget this Aft. propounded Atwater & King two Junior Sophisters for full Communion in the College Church. Also read the Proclam<sup>a</sup> for a Continental Thanksgiving issued by the Gov. of this State in consequence of Recommendation from Congress to all the States of the Union.

6. Fowler Respondent—Decretum Dei non effecit Eventum.

7. Whether Enslaving Negroes be right? Negative.

8. The Steward at great Difficulty in upholding Commons.

9. Continental Thanksgiving recommended by Congress & appointed by each of the United States. I preached for Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Williston of West Haven, Ps. 116, 12.

10. This day thro' the great patience of an holy God I am fifty two years old. Every year of my Life has been filled with the Experience of the divine Goodness, Care & Protection. The last

year with two special Instances of Preserv<sup>a</sup>, viz, in a Dangerous Fall from my horse of which I am scarcely yet recovered, and an Escape from the hands of the En<sup>y</sup> when they invested this Town. I have been reduced to greater worldly Straits this year than ever. Yet still we subsist. I wish to be intirely submissive to the divine Will, the momentary Remnant of my days. My spared Life I devote to him who is the Length of my days & found<sup>a</sup> of all my Hopes.

11. Mr. Marchant here from Congress: one of my Newport Flock. Informs me that the State of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> have taken Philad<sup>a</sup> College out of the Hands of D<sup>r</sup> Smith the Provost & the old Trustees, & formed a new Constitution, & made it the University of Pennsylvania. Accord<sup>y</sup> taken the keys. D<sup>r</sup> Smith vehemently remonstrated against it, but being an insidious Tory, in vain. Last week died the Rev. Dr. Alison, Vice-Provost, æt. supra 80. Congress are about draw<sup>g</sup> Bills on Spain & Holland to be sold as Exch<sup>a</sup> shall govern, hop<sup>s</sup> this may check the amazing Depreciation of Currency now from 25 to 35 for 1 & upwards.

12. Ldsday. I preached all day for Rev. Mr. Mather. . .

14. Committee of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> met & settled Exch<sup>a</sup> 40 for 1.

15. Quarter day. About 120 Students present.

16. Broke up College & dismissed the Students till the end of Winter Vacation, viz till Feb. 1, 1780.<sup>1</sup> Necessitated to this because the Steward is unable to provide Commons with Continental Currency now in rapid Depreciation, hav<sup>g</sup> fallen near a quarter within 3 Weeks or a month past.

18. Terrible Snow Storm. Half Leg deep or more.<sup>2</sup>

19. Ldsdy. I attended Rev. Mr. Whittelseys Meeting and preached for him A.M. . . . .

20. I have before me the new Charter of Philad<sup>a</sup> College, being an Act of the Gen. Assembly of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> which passed Sat<sup>y</sup> Nov. 27, 1779, by which they have reconstructed the College by the Name of the *University of Pennsylvania*. It confirms the Charters of 1753 & 1755 under Exceptions, annuls the present Corporation & Faculty, grants confiscated Estates to amount of £500 per Ann.

<sup>1</sup> On a sheet of College Memoranda President Stiles states: About 40 students tarried till 10<sup>th</sup> Jan<sup>y</sup> or beginning of Vacation. Prayers & Recitations upheld as usual.

<sup>2</sup> In Dr. Stiles's interleaved Almanac for this date is the entry: 200 Light Horse came to Town.



Wheat 10<sup>1</sup> per Bushel; appoints 25 Trustees instead of the former; the Trustees to be the President of Executive Council, Vice-president, Speaker of Assembly, Chief Justice, Judge of Admiralty & Att<sup>o</sup> Gen. these 6 by Virtue of Office in annual Election of the Legislature for time being, the senior Minister of 6 Chhs in the City of Philad<sup>a</sup> viz. Episcopal, Presb., Bapt., Lutheran, Germ. Calvinistic, & Roman Catholic, together with D<sup>r</sup> Franklin & twelve others, mak<sup>e</sup> 25 in all in Room of 24 Trustees in the Charter of 1755. In the Bill it was 24 at first; but afterwds to finish the appearance of a deistical Catholicism, they took in the Romish Clergyman, which made the Number 25, of which they have still taken care a Majority shall be Episcopalians as in the first Charter. The Succession of the 13 elective Trustees to be perpetuated in their own Election, the Assembly having power to negative the Choice for six months. They make Laws, appoint Provosts & all Officers & transact all Things part<sup>y</sup> the Revision of the College Laws conform<sup>a</sup> to the Revolution of America & Constitution of that Commonwealth.

23. Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Edwards informs me that they have proceeded so far with respect to an academic School or College in the back parts of N<sup>o</sup> Carolina, as that the Rev<sup>d</sup> Alex<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Whorter<sup>1</sup> of Newark has actually removed thither with his family to take the Charge of it as President or Head of that Infant Seat of Learning. There has been Talk for several years of a College among the Presb. Irish Settlers in Hillsborough C<sup>o</sup>, and Gov. Tryon, a little before the Conflict with the *Regulators* so called there, in order to take the Lead & turn it into an Episc<sup>o</sup> Institution, granted a Charter for a College at Hillsboro' & constituted M<sup>r</sup> Fanning (a young Lawyer there)<sup>2</sup> President. But the present Times com<sup>e</sup> on Tryon was removed & Col. Fanning becom<sup>e</sup> politically obnoxious, was obliged to fly to N. York with Gov. Tryon, & so the Thing dropped. It seems it is now resumed—but whether upon Tryon's Charter or another I have not heard. D<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Whorter was born I think in Pensylv<sup>a</sup>; educated at Jersey College & graduated 1757; afterwds settled at Newark in Jersey. He is said to be a good Scholar, tho' not of the greatest Acquisitions, a Calvinist, a popular Preacher, & a worthy Man. The Senatus academicus of Yale College enter-

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, Oct. 25, 1769. The institution which he was invited to preside over was the Academy at Charlotte in Mecklenburg County.

<sup>2</sup> See this Diary, June 21, 1771.

tained so good an Opinion of him as a Divine that they sent him a Diploma in 1776 [Oct. 23], creating him a Doctor in Divinity. God grant that he may become a great Blessing to N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> in forming Ministers for the Chhs there. The State of N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> may consist of 150 or Two hundred Thousd souls Whites, & yet in so unformed a state with regard to Religion that there may not be above perhaps 30 or 40 preachers of all Denominations within the State: while there are pple eno' to form 200 respectable Chhs or Congregations or pastoral Charges.

25. Being Christmas, I attended at the Chh of Engld Congregation in Town; the Rev<sup>d</sup> Bela Hubbard the Missionary Incumbent performed divine Service, & preached from Jn<sup>o</sup> i, 14.

26. Ldsdy. I attended Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Edwds Meetg. He preached all day upon 1 Thess. v, 19, Quench not the Spirit.

27. A terrible Snow storm, began last Even<sup>e</sup>.

29. Judge Ingersoll<sup>1</sup> spent the Even<sup>e</sup> with me; told me he had received a Letter from his Son in Philad<sup>a</sup> in intimate Connexion with Mr. Reed President of the State of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> & also of the Trustees of the University there, desiring to know whether D<sup>r</sup> Johnson<sup>2</sup> of Stratfd would accept the Office of Provost of that Univ<sup>y</sup>, signifying that he had it in his Tho'ts to propose him. The Salary to be £800 per ann. Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Curr<sup>y</sup>. Dollars 76, & a House, whose Rent is estimated at £200 more (£500 Sal<sup>y</sup> £300 Perquisites £200 House). M<sup>r</sup> Ingersoll had a Conference with the Doctor last Even<sup>e</sup> upon the subject.

30. Report that Capt. Jones in a Continental ship &c landed in the mouth of the River Humber in Engl<sup>d</sup>, took several Vessels, marched thro' a seaport town, summoned the Inhabitants, told them he could burn their Town, but nobly refused to do it.

31. . . . In the year 1769 I preached 26 whole days & 9 half days & Lect. equal 30 Sabbaths, or above half the year—gratis. . . .

Gov. Tryon's Lett. in answer to mine of July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1779.

NEW YORK, 25<sup>th</sup> Sept<sup>r</sup> 1779.

“SIR

Disposed by principle as well as by inclination to prevent the Violence of War from injuring the Rights of the Republic of Learning, I very much approve of your Solicitude for the preservation of Mr. Claps Manuscripts. Had they been found here, they should most certainly have been restored, as you desire,—but

<sup>1</sup> Hon. Jared Ingersoll (Yale 1742).

<sup>2</sup> William Samuel Johnson (Yale 1744).

after diligent inquiry, I can learn nothing concerning them. The officer of the party at the House where the Box is supposed to have been deposited, has been examined, and does not remember to have seen it, nor apprehends that any such Papers fell into the Hands of the Soldiery.

I would therefore indulge a hope, that better care has been taken of the Collection, than you was led to imagine at the Date of your letter. This however will not abate my attention and inquiry, nor shall I if I succeed, omit the Gratification of your Wish. I am Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> Very Ob<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

WM TRYON."

Rev<sup>d</sup> Ezra Styles

Received Oct. 21. 1779.

"SIR

YALE COLLEGE Dec. 14. 1779.

The latter end of Oct<sup>o</sup> last I received your Letter of 25<sup>th</sup> September. It is unnecessary for you to make any further Inquiry respecting President Clap's Manuscripts. Capt. Boswell of the Guards, while here on the fatal 5<sup>th</sup> of July last, shewed some of them in Town, which he said he had taken from Gen. Wooster's House; and it is presumed that he well knows the accident which befel the rest. Your Troops carried away from Mr. Wooster's a large Box and two large Trunks of papers: one of them was a trunk of papers which the General took in Canada, the others were his own & the Presidents. On the night of the Conflagration of Fairfield, three whale boats of our people, in their way from Norwalk to the eastward, passing by your fleet at anchor off Fairfield then in flames, sailed thro' a little ocean of floating papers not far from your shipping. They took up some of them as they passed. I have since separated & reduced them all to three sorts and no more, viz: Gen. Wooster's own papers, Gen. Carleton's French Commissions & Orders to the Canadian Militia, and M<sup>r</sup> Clap's a few of which last belonged to this College. This Specimen, Sir, shews us that the rest are unhappily & irrecoverably lost: unless perhaps Cap<sup>t</sup> Boswel might have selected some before the rest were thrown overboard. If so, your polite attention to my request convinces me, that I shall be so fortunate as to receive such as may have been saved.

I am, Sir,

Your very humb. Serv.

EZRA STILES."

His Excell<sup>y</sup> Gen. Tryon

New York.

Sent by Major Harnage  
of the Saratoga Convention Troops.<sup>1</sup>

CHARLES CHAUNCY

ANAGRAM

*His Shadow is without Deceit.*<sup>2</sup>

Arise and look into the Book this learned author has written, the pains he has taken in it deserves a great Reward: Or, his Work therein is its own Reward.

<sup>1</sup> Apparently not sent until May 9, 1780. See Diary of that date.

<sup>2</sup> The original Hebrew is not given.



He is a powerful preacher, knowledge proceeds out of his mouth, he abounds in reproof proper to bring all men to a sense of their Sins.

He delights in (the) fear (of G<sup>d</sup>) he excels in humility, it is his delight to speak the Words of Wisdom.

His name is famous & renowned among the wise and prudent; he excells amongst the upright; & is great or illustrious among the Doctors or Divines.

Blessed is the man who hearkens to the Instructions of his speech: for he teacheth sound Doctrine, & all this is the desire of his soul.

He hath planted his Vine among the learned, good Works are his secrets, he is a man mighty in the Knowledge of divine things; none is equal to him in scholastic disputations.

He is just & righteous in his Actions, & speaks Truth from his heart. She was happy who brought him forth, a person so good & wise as he is.

May his days be prolonged, & those of his Relations: may he live to raise the honour of his house; and may they (or the world) bless him in the Name of the Lord.

In the honour of Charles Chauncy, Written in Hebrew by Maria Antonio de Verona. An. 1626.

Translated by T. Russel. An. 1712.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> President Chauncy died at Cambridge in N. E. Feb. 19. 167½ Æt. 82. And so was Æt. 36. when this Encomium was written. He came from Engld. to New England after 1635 . . . .

1780

January

1. Composing an Ordination Sermon from 1 Tim<sup>o</sup> iv. 14. In the Evening reading the learned Chamier . . . .

2. Ldsdy. Excessive Cold, Snow a foot & half on Level & hardens to walk & ride on. I attended Divine Service all day at the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Mather's Meeting. He preached A.M. on Luke—Fear not little Flock &c & administered the Lds Supper to about twenty Communicants; I partook. P. M. he preached Ps. xc—Lord teach us to number our Days, &c. New Years Sermon. The Ink freezes in my pen while I am writing this by the Fireside. They sing Watts's Version of the Psalms in the three Meetings in Town; as well as at College. At M<sup>r</sup> Hubbards Episc<sup>o</sup> Chh. they sing Tate & Brady's Version of the Psalms. Twenty years ago they sang the old New Engld. Version at the Meetings. [About Sunset came a violent snow storm & highest Tide ever known by two or 3 feet. Wind for 4 hours bléw almost every pt. of Compass.]

2. Violent Snow storm, drifted over the Fences. Composing Sermon. Capt. Seymour in T<sup>n</sup> he left Philad<sup>a</sup> day before Xmas, says that Continental Bills appretiate fast since the Vote of Congress for draw<sup>g</sup> Bills on foreign Loan—in a few weeks they have fallen from 50 & 60 for 1 to 33<sup>1</sup>/<sub>3</sub> for 1—Congress talk of removing from Philad<sup>a</sup> on account of Expences, to Alexandria, Annapolis, Baltimore, Albany or Hartford. Gen. Wash. Army encamped at Morrist<sup>o</sup> & so along towards Trenton, without Bread for 3 days—yet enlisting again fast, on the sole principle to enforce a Compens<sup>a</sup> at the End of the War. Divine Providence orders one motive after another towards keeping up the Army.

4. M<sup>r</sup> Seymour<sup>1</sup> spent the Even<sup>g</sup> with me. A young Lawyer, who has been liv<sup>g</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> Ingersoll in Philad<sup>a</sup>. He tells me he bro<sup>t</sup> dispatches from M<sup>r</sup> President Reed to M<sup>r</sup> Ingersoll respect<sup>g</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Johnson with Proposals of £800 Sal<sup>y</sup> & House. It seems they wanted to find an Episcopalian, & M<sup>r</sup> Ingersoll recommended D<sup>r</sup> Johnson. M<sup>r</sup> Seym. says they have chose D<sup>r</sup> Ewing a Presb. Min. in Philad<sup>a</sup> as Vice Provost, with half the Salary.

5. Severe Winter Weather—Snowing still & snow blowing & drifting, nearest like the year 1740-1, which I well remember. This day 50 Men with Horses, Sleighs & 2 Sleds beat a path out six Miles to Goodyears farm for wood. The poor in Destress !

6. Severe Weather. Snow Storm continues with some Intermission.

7. Snow over the Fences—Drifts high—in Woods at Amity, Carmel & Cheshire 3<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> & four feet deep on Level. It has the nearest Resemblance to the hard Winter 1740-1 which I perfectly remember. The Snow & severe Weather set in then about Dec 10<sup>th</sup> O. S. or about our present Christmas [rather Dec 17<sup>th</sup> first great Snow], & lasted 13 Weeks. This day extremely cold, high Winds, Snow Blows a Storm—Destress<sup>g</sup> time for want of Wood.

8. Snowing over. Excessive cold.

9. Ldsdy. I attended Rev. Mr. Whittelsey's Meet<sup>g</sup> this day ; he preached . . .

10. I sat out for Ordination. Snow this night half a foot.

11. Arrived at Southington this Even<sup>g</sup> & found only two of the Ministers of the Ordaining Council convened. The Ways are impassable on account of the Quantity of Snow, which is 3, 4, 6 & ten feet deep, estimated at four feet & half on a Level. It is judged

<sup>1</sup>Thomas Y. Seymour (Yale 1777), of Hartford.

there is a greater Quantity of Snow on the Ground than in the hard Winter of 1740/1 which I well remember. The high Winds fill up Paths.

List of Candidates to the Ministry on the Catalogues of the New Engld Colleges chiefly, as they stand Jan<sup>y</sup> 1, 1780, accounting for 20 years back, or from 1760 to 1780, being those which are preachers yet now unsettled.

## HARVARD COLLEGE.

|                                 |                            |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------|
| 1763 Mr. Tutor Gannet [Steward] | Mr. Tutor Eliot            |
| 1769 Mr. Tutor Guild            | Mr. Wheaton                |
| 1770 Mr. Mellen                 | 1775 Mr. Thatcher          |
| Mr. A. Hutchinson               | 1776 Mr. Daniels           |
| Mr. Goddard                     | Mr. Morey                  |
| 1771 Mr. Ballantine             | Mr. Prince [settled Salem] |
| Mr. Wheeler                     | Mr. Hubbard                |
| Mr. Parsons                     | Mr. Payson                 |
| Mr. Allen                       | 1777 Mr. Smith             |
| 1772 Mr. Haven                  | 1778 Mr. Savage            |
| Mr. Badcock                     | 23 in Nov. 1779.           |
| 1773 Mr. Stearns                | [Mr. Burnap                |
| 1774 Mr. Allen                  | Mr. Bentley]               |

## YALE COLLEGE.

|                              |  | Native Place           | now preachs at            |
|------------------------------|--|------------------------|---------------------------|
| 1765 Mr. Woodbridge . . .    |  | Glassenb <sup>y</sup>  |                           |
| 1766 Mr. Hotchkiss . . .     |  | N. Haven               | Derby hill                |
| Mr. Bliss . . . . .          |  | Springfield            | done                      |
| Mr. Olcott . . . . .         |  | Hartfd                 | Enfield                   |
| 1769 Mr. Dwight . . . . .    |  | N <sup>o</sup> Hampton |                           |
| Mr. Plum . . . . .           |  | Middlet <sup>o</sup>   | in Army                   |
| 1770 Mr. Lewis . . . . .     |  | Southington            | Lebanon                   |
| 1771 Mr. Barker . . . . .    |  | Barnford               |                           |
| 1772 Mr. Tutor Baldwin . . . |  | New Haven              | Army                      |
| Mr. Read . . . . .           |  | Middleboro'            | Petersham                 |
| 1773 Mr. Atkins . . . . .    |  | Middletown             | done                      |
| Mr. Camp . . . . .           |  | Norfolk                | Middleboro'               |
| Mr. Hayes . . . . .          |  | Symsbury               | Hartland                  |
| Mr. Tutor Robinson . . .     |  | Lebanon                | Southington, Pastor Elect |
| 1774 Mr. Tutor Atwater . . . |  | N. Haven               | Derby                     |
| Mr. Gaylord . . . . .        |  | Windsor                |                           |
| Mr. Greenough . . . . .      |  | Boston                 |                           |
| Mr. Tutor Lockwood . . .     |  | Wethersfd              | Mt. Carmel                |
| Mr. Murdock . . . . .        |  | Saybrook               | Vermont                   |
| 1775 Mr. Everit . . . . .    |  | Winchester             |                           |
| Mr. Fowler . . . . .         |  | Lebanon                | Lee                       |
| Mr. Fenn . . . . .           |  | Milford                | Worthington, Pastor Elect |



|      |               |   |   |   |                       |                       |
|------|---------------|---|---|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|
|      | Mr. Johnson   | . | . | . | Middleton             | W <sup>m</sup> sburgh |
|      | Mr. Judson    | . | . | . | Woodb <sup>y</sup>    | Taunton               |
|      | Mr. Mills     | . | . | . | Kent                  |                       |
|      | Mr. Prudden   | . | . | . | Milfd                 | Ridgefd               |
|      | Mr. Perry     | . | . | . | Ripton                |                       |
|      | Mr. Reed      | . | . | . | Middleboro'           |                       |
| 1776 | Mr. Hide      | . | . | . | Norwich               | Richmond              |
|      | Mr. Mitchel   | . | . | . | Woodb <sup>y</sup>    | Amity                 |
| 1777 | Mr. Alexander | . | . | . | Northfd, Mass.        | Barrington            |
|      | Mr. Andruss   | . | . | . | Farmington            |                       |
|      | Mr. Avery     | . | . | . | Norwich               | Hartfd                |
|      | Mr. Camp      | . | . | . | Waterb <sup>y</sup>   | Stepney               |
|      | Mr. Cook      | . | . | . | D <sup>o</sup>        |                       |
|      | Mr. Hatch     | . | . | . | Kent                  |                       |
|      | Mr. Tullar    | . | . | . | Sheffield             | Barnet                |
| 1778 | Mr. Ely       |   |   |   |                       |                       |
|      | Mr. Foster    |   |   |   |                       |                       |
|      | Mr. Spalding, |   |   |   | Jan <sup>y</sup> 1780 |                       |

## RHODE ISLD COLL.

|         |   |   |   |   |              |            |
|---------|---|---|---|---|--------------|------------|
| Mr. Law | . | . | . | . | New Cheshire |            |
| Mr. Coe | . | . | . | . | Middlefield  | Piscataqua |

DARTM<sup>o</sup> COLL.

|      |                        |      |                              |
|------|------------------------|------|------------------------------|
| 1773 | Mr Tutor Smith         | 1777 | Mr Colby                     |
| 1774 | Mr Kendal              |      | Mr Lyon                      |
|      | Mr Waters              |      | Mr Packard                   |
| 1775 | Mr Collins             |      | Mr Simon, Indus, Stockbridge |
|      | Mr Kellog              | 1778 | Mr Vaile ordained            |
|      | Mr Osborn, at Tinmouth |      | [Mr Kilburn                  |
|      | Mr May                 |      | Mr Mottey                    |
| 1776 | Mr Easterbrook         |      | Sir Wood                     |
|      | Mr Jewett              |      | Sir Ainsworth]               |
|      | Mr Walcott             |      |                              |

|                           |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|---------------------------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Candidates in Harv. Coll. | . | . | . | . | . | 23 |
| Yale Coll.                | . | . | . | . | . | 39 |
| Rh. Is. Coll.             | . | . | . | . | . | 2  |
| Dartm <sup>o</sup> Coll.  | . | . | . | . | . | 15 |

77

Ministers dismissed, yet preaching in this state or residing in it.

|                       |                                   |
|-----------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Rev. Mr. Bird         | Rev. Mr. Sill                     |
| Rev. Mr. Sherman      | Rev. Mr. Avery                    |
| Rev. Mr. Chapman      | Rev. Mr. Ellis                    |
| Rev. Mr. Kettletas    | Rev. Mr. Rose Refugee fr. L. Isld |
| Rev. Professor Strong | Rev. Mr. Burret                   |
| Rev. Mr. Jos. Strong  | Rev. Mr. Bradford                 |

There are forty one vacant parishes in Connecticut,  
 about 60 in Vermont.  
 60 in N. Hamp.  
 80 Mass.  
 5 Rh. Isld

---

80 Candidates to 245 vacancies.

12. This was to have been the day of Ordination according to the Letters missive which I received from the Chh. of Southington. But thro' the Severity of the Season, & high winds blowing the snow & filling up the Paths, only 2 Chhs & 3 Ministers were convened to day, & it was deferred till the morrow. This Afternoon we however formed & examined M<sup>r</sup> Robinson the Pastor Elect : & the Chh Committee laid before us their Transactions & Votes respect<sup>e</sup> his Call. In the Even<sup>g</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Newell arrived hav<sup>g</sup> been all day in coming seven miles & 40 men employed in opening the Way. Next day arrived M<sup>r</sup> Pitkin & Mr. Gillet, the latter came part of the Way on Snowshoes. The Council this Evening allotted the parts & voted to proceed to Ordination to Morrow.

13. This day the Ordin<sup>a</sup> of the Rev<sup>d</sup> William Robinson late senior Tutor of Yale College was attended ; a very large Congregation assembled on the Occasion.

#### Extract of Result.

“ At a Meet<sup>g</sup> of an Ecclesiastical Council of Elders & Delegates of the Chhs of X convened at Southington Jan<sup>y</sup> 12, 1780.

|                                                          |   |                                                           |
|----------------------------------------------------------|---|-----------------------------------------------------------|
| Elders<br>present<br>Rev <sup>d</sup> Mess <sup>rs</sup> | { | D <sup>r</sup> Ezra Stiles President of Y. College        |
|                                                          | { | Samuel Newel Pastor of the Chh in N. Cambridge            |
|                                                          | { | Tim <sup>o</sup> Pitkin Pastor of the Chh in Farmington   |
|                                                          | { | Jn <sup>o</sup> Foot Pastor of the Chh in N. Cheshire     |
| Delegates<br>present                                     | { | Alex <sup>r</sup> Gillet Pastor of the Chh in Farmingbury |
|                                                          | { | Benoni Upson Pastor of the Chh in Kensington              |
|                                                          | { | Deacon Stephen Hotchkiss from the Chh in N. Camb.         |
|                                                          | { | Deacon Seth Lee from the Chh in Farmington                |
|                                                          | { | Deacon Samuel Beach fr. the Chh in N. Cheshire            |
|                                                          | { | Brig. General Selah Hart fr. the Chh in Kensington        |

D<sup>r</sup> Stiles was chosen Mod<sup>r</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Foot & G. Hart were chosen Scribes.”

The Church of Christ in Southington to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Ezra Stiles D.D. President of Yale College, sendeth greeting. . . .

It having pleased God in his Providence to unite the heart of this Church in the choice of M<sup>r</sup> William Robinson for our Gospel Minister ; this is to desire your presence on the 12<sup>th</sup> day of Jan<sup>y</sup> next, to assist in setting him a part to that important work according to the directions of the Gospel.—Wishing that Grace

Mercy & Peace may be multiplied unto you, we subscribe ourselves in the name & at the request of the Chh. your Brethren in the Lord

Southington Dec<sup>r</sup> 20<sup>th</sup>  
1779

|               |                       |
|---------------|-----------------------|
| JOSIAH COWLS  | } Com-<br>mit-<br>tee |
| TIMOTHY CLARK |                       |
| AARON WEBSTER |                       |
| JOHN CURTISS  |                       |

N. B. The Council is desired to meet at 12 o'Clock the preceeding day at the home of Mr. Jon<sup>th</sup> Root, a little north of the meeting house . . . .

M<sup>r</sup> Upson made the first prayer; then I preached on 1 Tim<sup>o</sup> iv, 14-16. M<sup>r</sup> Foot made the ordaining prayer during the Imposition of the hands of the Presbytery; M<sup>r</sup> Newell gave the charge; M<sup>r</sup> Pitkin made the concluding prayer; & M<sup>r</sup> Foot gave the Right Hand of Fellowship. These with M<sup>r</sup> Gillet laid on hands. Hands not laid on during the Charge, according to Custom lately in some of the Consociations, tho' this Council was not a consociated Council, but one elected at large. Three psalms were sung in Dr Watts's Version. I was two hours in Sermon. We began about Eleven & finished at three o'Clock, nearly 4 hours in service. A very decent, crouded & attentive Auditory. The whole was performed with a serious Solemnity. The Council &c dined at M<sup>r</sup> Roots. After dinner as Moderator I concluded as I had begun the Council with Prayer, & dissolved it.

14. Very blustering. Visited the venerable & aged the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Curtiss<sup>1</sup> æt. 80 & supra, the first Pastor of the Chh in Southington, who resigned the Min<sup>y</sup> about 20 y. ago, who attended the Ordin<sup>a</sup> with intire Satisfaction & dined with the Council. Visited also Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Chapman<sup>2</sup> dismissed 5 or 6 y. since from the pastoral Charge of this Chh.

16. Ldsdy. I preached all day for M<sup>r</sup> Robinson A.M. Rom. v, 21. P.M. 1 Thess. ii, 19, 20. After Sermon Mr R. performed a Baptism.

18. Returned to New Haven. Snow very deep. Travelling I fell in with M<sup>r</sup> Abraham Pierson son of Rev<sup>d</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Pierson of Woodbridge in N. Jersey, & Grandson of Rector Pierson. He tells me his Grandfather the Rector was once Minister of Newark, but differed on Chh Discipline being for Scotch Presb<sup>y</sup> & was dismissed. Then came to N. England & settled in Killingworth. The Family MSS fell into the Hands of Rev. Mr. Green of Jersey, who married a Daughter of Rev. Jn<sup>o</sup> Pierson who died about 1770, æt. 80 & supra—graduated 1711.

<sup>1</sup> Jeremiah Curtiss (Yale 1724).

<sup>2</sup> Benjamin Chapman (Princeton 1754).



19. Committee of Corporation met. And

20. Agreed to order the Students to return to College at End of Vacation as many as can board in T<sup>o</sup> & pay in provisions, the Steward being unable to procure them with Currency, which is now 40 or 50 for 1. The rest have Leave of further Absence.

This Eveng I was visited by M<sup>r</sup> Woodward late Tutor & now one of the Trustees of Dartm<sup>o</sup> College & M<sup>r</sup> James Wheelock youngest son of D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock, Agents for a District of Towns on Connect. River both sides going to Congress to solicit either that they may be a distinct State—or to be joyned to Vermont—or that Vermont & they be annexed to State of N. Hampshire.

M<sup>r</sup> Woodward tells me that Col. Wheelock has accepted the Presidency of Dartm<sup>o</sup> College about 2 M<sup>o</sup> ago. He gave me a printed Copy of the College Charter; says they have about *thirty Undergraduates* & as many in the Grammar School. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Ripley & M<sup>r</sup> Smith Tutors. M<sup>r</sup> Wheelock lectures on Divinity every Wednesday Even<sup>g</sup> to the Scholars, but is not ordained neither preaches, but is stud<sup>g</sup> Divinity. He counted on Dartm<sup>o</sup> Catalogue fifteen Candidates for the Ministry—says on Vermont side of the River are about sixty six Townships with twenty families apiece & upwds & most of them need<sup>g</sup> Ministers—he judged as many in N. Hampshire. M<sup>r</sup> Bradly told me that by a Numeration lately made & mak<sup>g</sup> in Verm<sup>o</sup> it appears they are between 29 & *thirty Thousd* Souls—there are perhaps a dozen regular Presb. Ministers settled in it, a number of Baptist Elders & Separate Teachers.

Major Davenport of Stanfd tells me the Sound is frozen over across against Horseneck to L. Isld—and they pass over on Ice at Whitestone.

21. At Hartford the Temperature of the Air, as observed with a Fahrenheits Therm<sup>o</sup> by Rev. Mr. Strong, has been as follows:

| Janry | 1 | Sunrise | 2         | Janry | 9  | Sunrise.   | II. P. M. |
|-------|---|---------|-----------|-------|----|------------|-----------|
|       | 2 |         | 7 below 0 |       | 10 | 5          | 28        |
|       | 3 |         | 14        |       | 11 | 19         | 32        |
|       | 4 |         | 16        |       | 12 | 26         |           |
|       | 5 |         | 6         |       | 13 | 11         | 29        |
|       | 6 |         | 10        |       | 14 | 8          | 19        |
|       | 7 |         | 9         |       | 15 | 9          | 25        |
|       | 8 |         | 1 below 0 |       | 19 | 15         | 32        |
|       |   |         |           |       | 20 | 13 below 0 | 14        |
|       |   |         |           |       |    | 5          | 8         |

22. About 1500 of our troops from Eliza T<sup>o</sup> lately made a Descent on Staten Isld. My Therm<sup>o</sup> was broke 5<sup>th</sup> July last the day of the Enemys Taking New Haven. I procured Professor Strong's Therm<sup>o</sup> which I rec<sup>d</sup> this Evening, when at VII<sup>h</sup> P.M. the Mercury stood at 6 above 0—VIII<sup>h</sup> P.M. it was on Cypher or 32 deg. below freezing point—at IX it had descended to three deg. &  $\frac{3}{4}$  below Cypher. Clear and Cold. Wind N.W.

23. Ldsdy. I attended at Whitehaven all day. Rev. Mr. Edwds preached all day on Rom. iii, 24, on the Doctrine of Justification which he handled well. At sunrise Friday mercury in Fahrenheits Therm<sup>o</sup> stood on Cypher—at Noon 17 above. Reading Chamier. Excessive cold . . the highest Altitude of the day 18 $\frac{1}{2}$  above 0. At IX Evening on Cypher.

26. Still cold. Therm<sup>o</sup> 7 this Morn<sup>s</sup>. Frozen out two Miles beyond 5 mile Point. They pass in Sleighs over from Long Isld to Horse-neck. Last Commencm<sup>t</sup> we conferred honorary Degrees upon four Gentlemen who had not received an Education at a College; one of them M<sup>r</sup> Chauncy of this T<sup>o</sup> to whom I this day presented his Diploma.

{ L. S. }

Senatus Academiae Yalensis in Novo Portu Reipublicae Connecticutensis Omnibus has Literas perlecturis S. P. D.

Cum Carolus Chauncey Armiger, tam Linguis quam Artibus & Scientiis liberalibus acquirendis incubuerit, & laudabiles in iisdem utique Jurisprudentiae Legumque Studiis progressus proprio Marte fecerit, unde omnino idoneus ille reperitur ut inter Eruditos conscriberetur & dignus honoribus academicis ut exornaretur: Vobis itaque notum sit quod Nos Praeses & Socij Coll. Yal. in Comitibus academicis die 8<sup>vo</sup> Sept. A. D. 1779, eundem Dominum Carolum Chauncey Gradu honorario Tituloque Artium liberalium Magistri pro Meritis condecoravimus: dantes & concedentes ei omnia Privilegia, Dignitates, Honores, Jura ad eundem Gradum spectantia. In cujus Rei Testimonium Universitatis hujusce Sigillum patentibus hisce Literis Chirographa nostra apposuimus. Datum ex Aedibus academicis 8<sup>vo</sup> Septembris, MDCCLXXIX.

EZRA STILES SS. T. D. PRAESES.

NATH<sup>L</sup> TAYLOR  
ELIZUR GOODRICH  
SAM<sup>L</sup> LOCKWD  
TIM<sup>O</sup> PITKIN

ELIPH<sup>A</sup> WILLIAMS  
WARH<sup>A</sup> WILLIAMS  
JOHAN: TRUMBULL  
STEPH<sup>A</sup> JOHNSON

} Socii.

E Jussu Senat. Acad. ELIZUR GOODRICH Scriba.

28. The highest Altitude of the Mercury this day was 15 above 0 at III<sup>h</sup> P.M.; it descended to 7 by IX<sup>h</sup> in Evening & to 3 $\frac{1}{2}$  at X<sup>h</sup> with an increasing cold.

29. Sunrise Therm<sup>y</sup> 1° below 0. At noon 7; at III<sup>h</sup> P.M. 11½. At VIII<sup>h</sup> in Even<sup>g</sup> 10 above cypher. I rode over to East Haven across the Harbor on the Ice. Wind high S.W.

30. Ldsdy. I preached at E. Haven for Rev. Mr. Street, A.M. Rom. v, 20. P.M. Isai. xlv, 22. The S.W. wind has broke up some Ice beyond the Beach & off the mouth of the Harbor.

31. Cold. Th. 7 at X½ and 16 at II and 6½ at X<sup>h</sup> Even<sup>g</sup>.

## February

1. I set up Orders at College, altho' but few Scholars in Town. As we cannot uphold Commons, because Continental Money will not procure Provisions, so I have given a general Leave of further Absence, still taking under Tuition those who shall present themselves. The three Tutors are present.

2. Finished writing Gov. Griswolds Diploma. Copying Dr. Bartletts.

. . . . . The Confession of Faith & Chh Cov<sup>t</sup> for Admission of Communicants in the Chh. at N<sup>o</sup> Haven was draughted by M<sup>r</sup> Whittelsey at my fathers Ordin<sup>a</sup> 1724.

Confession of Faith & Chh. Cov<sup>t</sup> to which I assented publickly at my Admission into the Chh. of North Haven, Nov. 23 1746, æt. 19.

## CONFESSION OF FAITH.

"I believe there is one only true & livg Gd in three persons, the Father, the Son & the h. Ghost, the great Creator, Preserver & Governor of the World.

I believe Gd did make man in his own Image consisting in Knowledge Right. & true Holiness; but Man by his Disobedience has fallen from that holy & happy State, & has plunged himself into a state of sin & misery, out of which state he cannot recover himself.

I believe that Jesus Christ is the eternal Son of Gd, of one Substance with the Father, equal in Power & Glory; and that he was sent of the Father into the World as Mediator to save sinners, and doth execute the threefold Office of Prophet, Priest & King, who is able to save to the uttermost, neither is there Salv<sup>d</sup> in any other; that he is set as King on the holy Hill of Zion, doth & will preserve & protect his Chh, & rule & govern the same by his Word & Spirit, and Officers he hath set in the same.

I believe the necessity of Faith, Repentance & Holiness of Life in order to Salvation.

I believe the Resurrection of the dead & the future Judgment, in the which the righteous shall be rewarded with everlasting Life, but the wicked shall be punished with everlasting Destruction.

Thus you believe?



## THE COVENANT.

You do now in the awful Presence of the dread Majesty of Heaven & Earth before Angels & Men, with Seriousness & as you hope with Sincerity of Soul, avouch the Lord Jehovah to be your Sovereign Lord & supreme God thro' Jesus Christ, & solemnly devote & give up yourself to his fear & service; and engage yourself, by his Grace assisting, in the most sacred Ties, to observe all G<sup>d</sup>'s Commandm<sup>ts</sup>, seek<sup>r</sup> his Glory, and to walk in christian Fellowship & in the conscientious Performance of Xtian Duties in all the Ordinances to be enjoyed in his Chh, & in this particular Chh, so long as G<sup>d</sup> in his providence shall continue you here.

This you promise. N. B. Here the Chh Vote.

The Chh accept you.

And now in the name of Jesus Christ I declare you a Member in full Communion with the Chh of Christ. And in the Name of the Chh I promise, that being helped by the divine Spirit we will carry it towards you as towards Members of the same body with ourselves: watching over you for your good and that with a spirit of Meekness, Love & Tenderness: earnestly praying that the Lord would take Delight to dwell among us, that his divine Bless<sup>d</sup> may be upon us, & that his glorious K<sup>m</sup> may be advanced by us. Amen,

Thus we engage."

I rec<sup>d</sup> this from M<sup>r</sup> Street of East Haven, who received it from my father the Rev. Isaac Stiles as the Form used by him in the Chh. of North Haven. May I never forget this holy Profession, these solemn Vows & Covenant Engagements!

3. Reading Estwicks Considerations on the Negro Cause 1772. Weather altered. Therm<sup>o</sup> 36° at noon, mild, pleasant.

. . . . . Began Recitations.

Memoirs of Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Daggett. He was born at Attleborough Sept. 8, 1727. Rev. Sol<sup>o</sup> Reed<sup>1</sup> took him & Foster & Cobb of that Vicinity in 1743 as charity Scholars to educate liberally for the Min<sup>ry</sup>. M<sup>r</sup> Reed then a Candidate for the Min<sup>ry</sup> bro't them with him from Middleboro' to Canterbury or Plainfield in Connecticut, where Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Cogswell<sup>2</sup> was keeping school. M<sup>r</sup> Daggett was here about half a year under the faithful Grammar Instruction of M<sup>r</sup> Cogswell. This was the main Classical Instruct. he ever received. Remov<sup>d</sup> from Plainfield to Abington in Mass. with M<sup>r</sup> Reed, he there studied the N. T. to Revelations. At the End of the Vacancy 1744 M<sup>r</sup> Reed carried his 3 pupils, one of whom M<sup>r</sup> Daggett, to enter into Harv. College. But the last day was nearly past, & it was

<sup>1</sup> Harvard Coll. 1739, a native of Abington, Mass., afterwards settled in Framingham and Middleborough, Mass.

<sup>2</sup> James Cogswell (Yale 1742).

said that M<sup>r</sup> Reed had bro't 3 New Light Scholars—so they were refused without Examination, the time being said to be elapsed. Upon this M<sup>r</sup> Reed brot Daggett & Cobb to Yale College in the fall. Before this however the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Welde of Attleboro' resenting the matter himself carried Daggett &c again to Cambridge and remonstrated to the Presid<sup>t</sup> with great severity, but they still refused. Upon which M<sup>r</sup> Reed brot them to N. Haven, i. e. Cobb & Daggett leav<sup>g</sup> Foster behind. Daggett & Cobb was admitted 1744 at Y. C. Cobb turned out a profigate. Dagget studied well & graduated in 1748. About 1751 he was settled and ord. at Smith Town, Long Isl<sup>d</sup>, and 1755 was chosen professor of Div<sup>y</sup> in Y. C. & was installed 1756. In 1766 he was made Presid<sup>t</sup> pro Tempore which he resigned 1777. He still continues Professor of Divinity [ob. Nov. 25, 1780.]

5. Cold day. Therm. 6 lowest, 17 highest.

6. Ldsdy. I attended M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup>'s Meet<sup>g</sup> A.M. He preached on Exod. & administerd the Communion to perhaps 80 Communicants in which I partook. P.M. I preached on Ps. xi, 7.

. . . . . There is a Bill depend<sup>g</sup> in the Gen. Assembly of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> for prohibiting further Import<sup>a</sup> of Slaves & causing all Negro Children hereafter born to be free at æt. 24 or &c. So that Slavery may be extirpated from that State in another Generation. On this occasion it is asserted that the number of Negroes in that state are about *six thousand* Souls. I subjoyn an Estimate of the Negroes north of Maryl<sup>d</sup> & Virginia.

From Penobscot to Delaware

|                   |   |   |   |   |   |   |       |
|-------------------|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| N. Hamp.          | . | . | . | . | . | . | 4000  |
| Mass <sup>t</sup> | . | . | . | . | . | . | 10000 |
| Rh. Is.           | . | . | . | . | . | . | 5000  |
| Connect.          | . | . | . | . | . | . | 6000  |
|                   |   |   |   |   |   |   | <hr/> |
|                   |   |   |   |   |   |   | 25000 |
| N. Y. &c.         | . | . | . | . | . | . | 18000 |
|                   |   |   |   |   |   |   | <hr/> |

43 Th.

40 Thous<sup>d</sup> Blacks among one Million & an half Whites. In Somersets Case before Kings Bench about 1772 it was asserted that there were fifteen Thous<sup>d</sup> Negroes in Engl<sup>d</sup>.

Major Otis & Cap<sup>t</sup> Warner's Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Contribution in Connect.

<sup>1</sup> Edward Holyoke.

this year 1779 for the Newport sufferers which they received as Committee was—inclusive of Grain collected & burned in the Conflagration of Fairfield & Norwalk in July.

£7969.14.0 Cash collected fr. 201 Societies, & privates.

£3536.10.3 Expence collecting & Transport<sup>s</sup> Grain and 1003 Bushels of Grain.

I estimate y<sup>e</sup> Tot. in Value 5 or £600. Sterl<sup>s</sup>.

7. This day being pleasant, Therm<sup>o</sup> 33, I surveyed the Harbor of New Haven upon the Ice, accompanied with M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater and five of the Senior Class. From Westside point across the S<sup>o</sup> End of the Beach to Black Rock Fort N. 72° E 413 Rods. From s<sup>d</sup> Fort to the Beach on a West line 90 Rods. From the Pine Trees on 5 M. Point on the East Chop of the harbor to the mouth of Neckbridge River is due North, Black rock fort lying a little east of this Line, the whole length of which is Eleven hundred & fourty six Rods or 3½ Miles & 26 Rds. From the Fort to the Beach due West ninety Rods the only passage into the harbor for Vessels. From Fort to 5 M. P<sup>t</sup> 492 Rods.

8. A terrible Snowstorm, Snow fell half a foot. . . . The Worcester paper of 20 Jan<sup>y</sup> says the Road fr. Hartf<sup>d</sup> to B<sup>o</sup> is passable, but no other except by Snowshoes. Nothing like it these fourty years.— Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Trumbull of Westbury tells me the Hard Winter of 1740/1 was not equal to this in quantity of Snow, in early beginning, & perhaps in Intenseness of Cold; that now Feb. 8, the Snow in Waterbury Woods is four feet on level. M<sup>r</sup> Trumb. says in hard Winter 1740/1 he & his pple had no difficulty in getting to Meet<sup>s</sup> without mak<sup>s</sup> paths, not so now.

9. Small Descents are tak<sup>s</sup> place between the Armies of late; as L<sup>d</sup> Stirling & our pple (2500) made a descent on Staten Isl<sup>d</sup>, Jan<sup>y</sup> 14, & Cap<sup>t</sup> Lockwood also on the Garison at Morrisania: so the En<sup>y</sup> on the 25<sup>th</sup> ult. in 2 Div. made a descent upon Eliz<sup>a</sup>town & Newark, burnt the Meeting<sup>h</sup> & Schoolhouse at the former, & the Academy at the latter, & captivated some at both places—& since that they took our Guard at Horseneck. M<sup>r</sup> Trumb. says the late Drovers of Oxen for the Army cost £800 to 1200 a pair, at a Medium £1000 per Yoke. A Farmer with 1 pair of Oxen fat can maintain a son at College a Year.

10. This Afternoon the Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> gave a Divinity Lect. in the Chapel. The Anniversary of my once happy marriage.



11. Mild warm weather. Therm° 48. Thaw. In our Survey of the Harbor last monday we used a six Rod Line instead of a Chain. Some Allow<sup>a</sup> to be made for the stretching of the Line, say 4 R. for half a Mile. The Ranges only general & not accurate tho' taken with a Compass, having no standard & being in haste: so to be taken over again. These are some of the Measurements, & in the order in which they were made, beginning at D on Westside point—thence to B—thence southward to C—then returning to B measured thence to A. In the Course fr. B to A at 31 L. Beacon bore E. At 77 L. Pier N. 82° W. In Course B to C at 20 L. Pardys Rock E.

Ranges at D. Coll. Chapel bears N 3½ E.  
Pines on 5 M. P<sup>t</sup> E 41° S.  
Pardys Rock South p<sup>t</sup> E.  
F<sup>t</sup> Rock N 72° E 68 Lines 5 R.=413 Rods.  
N.W. Corner F<sup>t</sup> Beacon hill N 59° E.

Range at B to Pines on 5 M. P<sup>t</sup> S. W. 73 Lines to Pines & 9 more to P<sup>t</sup>. Tot. 82 L.=490 R.

Ranges at C. on 5 M. P<sup>t</sup>. M<sup>r</sup> Edw<sup>l's</sup> Steeple N. 10° W.—Error—Needle pointed 1° W. of Compass N.

Blackrock fort N E.  
Pier N 6½ W.  
Notch on Neck Rock N 5° E.  
Pardys Rock N 16 E.  
Station D on Westside shore N 49½ W.  
W. side Meetinghouse N 54° W.

Range fr. Station on Beach to Black Rock f<sup>t</sup> N 89 E or due E 15 Lines=90 Rods.

Range fr. Black Rock F<sup>t</sup> to Ferryhouse N. 6° W. 109 L.=654 Rods. Mouth Neck Rock R due N.

Range Beach station E to pier due N.

We measured the Line several times & several ways wet & dry. The first Even<sup>s</sup> after being used & stretched all day & wet, it was ruled on a scale or 2 f. Rule & measured by Tutor Atwater 6 Rds & 3 feet, unless perhaps by accounting one half doubl<sup>s</sup> too much it was 6 R 1 foot. Next day while yet damp I measured off one Rd & doubl<sup>s</sup> found it 6 Rds want<sup>s</sup> half a foot. I ruled it the same day on a scale & so found it half a foot short. Drying it thus 4 days I extended it thro' my house 44 feet & measured it along the Floor 100 feet & 10 inches stretched hard & dry. Also measured

two Rods separately as marked by pin 4 days ago & found 2 R  $8\frac{1}{2}$  Inch.—Another Rod of a part of Line of double Thickness & less stretchy 1 R 1 Inch.

Surveyed on Sea  
Feb 7-1780.



[Sketch of New Haven Harbor by Dr. Stiles.]

- I<sup>st</sup> Way—wet & long stretched, 6 Rds 3 f. or 102 feet  
 II<sup>d</sup> . . . not stretched, 6 R less  $\frac{1}{2}$  f. 98  $\frac{1}{2}$  f.  
 III<sup>d</sup> . . . . . D<sup>o</sup>.  
 IV<sup>th</sup> . . . dry & stretched, 6 Rds 1 f<sup>t</sup> 10 Inch. or 100 f. 10 Inc.  
 The greatest Excess of 6 Inc. per Rd. would be 11  $\frac{1}{2}$  Rds. per

Mile; the next of 4 Inch. would be  $7\frac{3}{4}$  R. per Mile. The deduction of 1 Inc. per Rd. would be a Loss of  $1\frac{1}{2}$  R. per Mile. And if we suppose the wet cord tho' stretched was but 6 R. 1 ft this would be an Excess of 2 Inc. per Rd. or little above 3 Rds. per Mile. The six Rods were first measured & knotted before we began & the wetting & stretch<sup>g</sup> gradual. Perhaps 18 or 20 Rd. may be allowed to the whole Line from ferry to 5 M. P<sup>t</sup>, a distance of  $3\frac{1}{2}$  M. & 50 Rds, certainly not to exceed  $3\frac{3}{4}$  Miles.

12. Surveyed across the Harbor thro' the Pier N  $87^{\circ}$  E from a station on West side a little below Redoubt. Black Rock fort S.  $36^{\circ}$  E, Long Wharf N  $46^{\circ}$  E. The E & W line 38 Lines to Pier thence to East side 28, Tot. 67. From Pier to End L. Wharf  $23\frac{1}{2}$  Lines. Measured the Line afterwards & found it 101 feet & 9 Inches, i. e. Inches stretched: So  $6.166=6$  R. 2 f. 9. So, Line across the Harbor 412 Rods, of which 234 R. to pier. From pier to Long Wharf, 146 Rds. Cap<sup>t</sup> Rice from the Shore at Entrance or Begin<sup>g</sup> of Long Wharf measured to the Beach *one Mile & half & twelve Rods.*

13. Ldsdy. Attended Lordsdy service in the Chapel first time since last December. Professor Daggett preached all day on Jno. vii, 17. Pleasant day. Examining many Texts in the Syriac Original, & in Hebrew & Greek.

14. Wednesday 9<sup>th</sup> Inst. Rev. Joseph Vaill ordained at Hadlyme.

Gen. Tryon's Lett. to &c. giv<sup>g</sup> acc<sup>o</sup> of Expedition into Connecticut last July—first Div. consist<sup>g</sup> of the flank companies of the Guards, the fuziliers, 54<sup>th</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup>, & a Detachm<sup>t</sup> of the Yagers with four fieldp. under B. Gen. Garth—2<sup>d</sup> Div. 23<sup>d</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> the Hessians, Landgrave & King's American Reg<sup>ts</sup> & 2 p<sup>s</sup> of Canon. Total killed 20—wounded 96—missing 32. Sailed from N. Y. July 3<sup>d</sup> & returned 13<sup>th</sup>.

|                             | New Haven                              |    |    | Fairfield                |    |    | Norwalk  |    |    |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------------------|----|----|--------------------------|----|----|----------|----|----|
|                             | July 5 <sup>th</sup> & 6 <sup>th</sup> |    |    | July 8 <sup>th</sup> & 9 |    |    | July 11. |    |    |
|                             | K.                                     | W. | M. | K.                       | W. | M. | K.       | W. | M. |
| Guards . . .                | 2                                      | 11 | 14 | 4                        | 11 | 2  |          | 1  |    |
| 7 <sup>th</sup> Fusiliers . |                                        | 8  | 2  |                          |    |    | 1        | 15 | 1  |
| 23 <sup>d</sup> Welch do.   |                                        | 2  |    |                          |    |    |          | 2  |    |
| 54 <sup>th</sup> . . .      | 6                                      | 8  | 8  |                          | 1  | 1  | 1        | 1  |    |
| Landgr <sup>a</sup> . . .   |                                        | 2  |    | 1                        | 12 |    |          | 3  | 1  |
| Yagers . . .                |                                        | 1  | 1  | 2                        | 2  | 1  |          | 1  |    |
| Amer. . . .                 | 1                                      | 7  |    | Tories 2                 | 4  | 1  |          | 2  |    |
| Artily . . .                |                                        | 1  |    |                          |    |    |          |    |    |
|                             | 9                                      | 40 | 25 | 9                        | 30 | 5  | 2        | 24 | 2  |



I judge this an erroneous Return. They told &c that they had 28 Officers killed & wounded. Now this acc<sup>o</sup> has but five Officers killed & wounded: or only 15 sergeants are included. So Tryon speaks of & laments the burn<sup>g</sup> of three places of pub. Worship, whereas they burned five. The heavy Attack seems to have fallen on the Guards, 54<sup>th</sup> & Yagers, & Tories. G. Clinton in his Letter to Ministry says—"detached on a desultory Expedition into the E. Sound with a view to *draw Mr Washington* from the strong post &c into Connecticut." N. B. Thirty nine of the En<sup>y</sup> killed & taken were returned to G. Ward in the New Haven affair only . . .

The Seniors disputed An Bruta ratiocinantur?

15. Thaw. Seniors forensic Disputation—Whether it be right to punish Theft with Death?

16. Seniors still reciting Martin's Philosophy. Mild pleasant day, Therm<sup>o</sup> 54. Snow dissolving.

17. Mild weather. Th. 41. Snow sinking away.

19. Snow greatly dissolving. D<sup>r</sup> Dexter from Boston last Week says the Snow four feet & a half deep there on a Level, froze out to Nantasket's Lighthouse. Informs that the Corporation of Harv. Coll. have elected the Rev<sup>d</sup> Samuel Williams of Bradford Hollis Professor of Math. & Phil. and Mr. Tutor Gannet Steward about a month or 6 W. ago, and that they had accepted.

20. Ldsdy. I attended Mr. Mathers Meeting: he preached A.M. 1 Cor. xv, 19. P.M. Gal. ii, 16. Examining Texts in Syriac . . .

21. The Seniors disputed syllogistically, Furem Capitis damnari Legi divinæ repugnat. The brave General Putnam died at Pomfret about a fourt'night ago.<sup>1</sup> About Christmas as he was going or returning to Camp, he was seized with a paralytic Disorder near Hartf<sup>d</sup>.

[They lately crossed over Narragansett Bay on the Ice from the Ferry at S<sup>o</sup> Kingston to Newport.]

The Winter has been severe beyond Memory. A Gent. from Virginia informs that Chesepeak Bay has been frozen, so that Men have passed over from York Town to Accomack side 32 Miles on the Ice, drawing after them a light burch Canoe.

22. Rain, Wind S E. Forensic Dispute, Whether Learning is of public Advantage to the State? From a cursory Numeration in a pocket Almanack of 1774, I found in Massachusetts 317 Congrega. Ministers, of which 62 [above 70 or one fifth] were educated at

Yale College, the rest chiefly at Harvard. In Connecticut 158 Cong. Minrs. of which 19 Harv. 8 Nassau & 131 Yalensians. In N. Hamp. 71 of which perhaps half a doz Yale, rest Harv. In Rh. Isld. 9 of which 3 Yalensians. So in 1774 about Two hundred Yalensians in the Min<sup>y</sup> in N. Eng<sup>l</sup> only. Perhaps Three hundred Harvardians. Total Ministers Cong. or Presb. about 555 A D 1775 or Commencement of the War, of which a few Collegues. About 64 Vacancies, besides the numerous initial Settlements in the New Towns. Total Cong. Chhs then 620 or above *Six hundred* in 4 N. Eng. Governments.

24. Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> gave a Lecture in the Chapel.

26. For several days a Thaw. Congress refer the Vermont Cause to the End of the War; in the meantime directing them to levy Taxes & raise Troops in their own way. The King's Speech is come over. . . .

27. Ldsdy. I attended at Mr. Edwds A.M. he preached on Job viii. 13, the Hypocrite's Hope. P.M. I attended Mr. Whittelsey who pr. Heb. iii, 6, hold<sup>e</sup> fast Confid. of this Hope. Fine mild thawing day. Reading Dr. Kendals Fur pro Tribunali . . . . Dr. Kendall in his Life of Dr. Twiss of Newbury, Prolocutor of the Assembly of Divines, says he was assiduous "in Scriptis profundi illius Doctoris Thomæ de Bradwardina à D<sup>o</sup> H. Savilio in publicum edendis . . . ." Then we are indebted to D<sup>r</sup> Twiss for Bradwardine, with whom I am a little conversant. He is a knotty Divine . . . .

28. . . . It is *reported* that a packet from the Brit. Min<sup>y</sup> is arrived for Congress & another for G. Washington proposing a Cessation of Arms. Not to be credited. Mild & thawing. Snow gone off the Hills, & farmers taking up Flax.

29. Forensic Dispute, Whether an universal Toleration of all Religion be best for a State? D<sup>r</sup> Johnson of Stratfd visited me; we conversed upon the subject of his expected Election to the office of Provost in the College of Philadelphia. I judge it would be agreeable to him. He entered his 53<sup>d</sup> year last October; so is a Month older than I am. I find the Oaths of Allegiance to the States & Abjur<sup>s</sup> of the King of Eng<sup>l</sup>, no insuperable Difficulty!

## March

1. An exceed<sup>e</sup> foggy day, Therm<sup>o</sup> 46. I attended a sacramental Lecture at Mr Whittelseys—He preached from Acts being the Anniversary of his Ordin<sup>a</sup> 1758. Historical & Affectionate! . . . .

2. This day the Seniors finished the Course of Nat. Philosophy. They usually compleat this in the Junior year: but they were so interrupted by the War that they had gone through but half the Course, by Commencement: & they came to my hands in the middle of 2<sup>d</sup> Vol. of Martin's Phil. the 3<sup>d</sup> & last Vol of which they ended this day. This Aft. Professor Dagget had a Lect. on the Atonement. Great. Aur. Bor., w<sup>c</sup> seemed as low in the Atmosphere as the Rainbow.

3. The Seniors began to recite Locke on hum. Und. V. 1.

\* 4. Rumors of serious Convulsions in Ireland.

5. Ldsdy. I attended all day at Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Mathers who preached all day. A.M. on *Regeneration*—and administered the Sacrament to perhaps 60 Communicants; I made the last prayer at the Sacrament. P.M. Rom. vi, 23.

6. Fine day. Therm<sup>o</sup> 57. Snow dissolving apace. Flax less damnified than was feared. Major Lyman from Stoney Point on North River estimates *five Thousand* left in N York under General Kniphausen & G. Tryon, chiefly Germans with some of the Guards stationed about Kingsbridge—about 8000 sailed to the southw<sup>d</sup> with G. Clinton—some also returned for Europe & some gone for the W. Indies. There seems to be a gradual Evacuation of N. York. Rumour still of Revolt of Irel<sup>d</sup>—rather Demand of some Liberties as to Trade & Commerce. The Committee of the Corporation of the College met here this day . . . Gen. Putnam is living.

7. Great Rain—Snow much gone. Issued Letters for convening the Corporation Tuesdy 18 April. Silver Doll. said to be 40 to 43 for 1. I was obliged to give 45 Cont. Doll. for 1 silver one to-day.

8. Qu<sup>r</sup> Bills made up this day. But no Qu. day publicly . . .

9. . . . Attended Professor Dagget's Lect upon the Eternity of Hell Torments. Rain. N.E. Storm.

10. The Snow generally carried off about New Haven, & the Earth bare. Gen. Lee dismissed lately from all Service in the Army by Congress. He is retired to his Plant<sup>a</sup> in Virginia. This was for disobeying Gen. Washington in the Battle of Monmouth. The Generals Lee, Gates, & Mifflin with others it is s<sup>d</sup> were in Confederacy in 1777 for the Supersedure of Gen. Washington, & by assist<sup>a</sup> of the Virginia Lee Family made Interest in Congress for an annual Election of the Commander in Chief or Generalissimo of the American Army, and so to drop Gen. Washington as being too



inactive in the Campaign of 1776. It was s<sup>d</sup> we wanted a Fighting General, an active Character in the Field as well as the deliberate able Councillor in the Cabinet—the Times required rather a Scipio than a Fabius. And some Expressions in Congress by M<sup>r</sup> Samuel Adams that great Patriot was too favorable to such a Faction. But while Lee & Gates (otherwise meriting highly) are in this respect mortified, Wash. both in Congress, the Army & public triumphs over all—so that the Opposition ceases. Gen Gates's Express with the News of Evacu<sup>a</sup> of Newport 1779 went directly on to Congress pass<sup>d</sup> within a dozen Miles of G. Wash. without call<sup>s</sup> to give him the first Information.

11. . . . . This day my son Ezra is Æt. 21. The Classics & Mathematics are not his favorite studies. He is however able to read the Pandects of the Jus Civile freely in Latin, and has gone thro' Survey<sup>s</sup> & Trigonometry. As to the other parts of academical Studies he has made a laudable proficiency part<sup>r</sup> in *Geography*, *Nat. Phil.*, *Hist<sup>s</sup>* & the *belles Lettres*, Elocution & Oratory. In these he has a fine Taste & has gone beyond the most of the best Scholars. He has done exceeding well in the Study of the Law, and is prepared very well to enter upon Business. As he is now setting out in the World, may the Guidance of unerring Wisdom and the Blessing of Heaven attend him. Whether he is to be & prove a good or a bad Character in Life, is with the Most High.

12. Ldsdy. N. E. Storm, Hail, Snow, Sleet, Rain. I attended at Mr. Whittelsey's Meeting; he preached all day on Jno. xiii, 7.

14. Report that Gov. Trumb. is informed by the Presid<sup>t</sup> of Congress that Russia, Denmark & Prussia have entered an alliance with Britain [a Tory Fiction]. Whether the Planets & Stars are inhabited? Yes.

15. I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from a Member of Congress dated Philad<sup>a</sup> 29 ult. which informs me that the Rev<sup>d</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Ewing, DD Presb. Minister in that City is chosen Provost of the College there, Sal<sup>y</sup> £500 & house, and M<sup>r</sup> Rittenhouse Vice Provost.

16. Tho' the Earth almost cleared of former snows: yet snow again to day. Professors Divinity Lect. upon Original Sin.

19. Ldsdy. I attended all day at Mr. Edwds'; he preached on 1 Pet. 1, 12. Excellent Sermon!

20. *Tellus Solem circumvolvit.* The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>r</sup> tells me that the Senior Class did not use to attend till Dec. Qu<sup>r</sup> before M<sup>r</sup> Claps day. . . . .

21. Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>, Whether *the Mind always thinks?*

22. Professor Strong held a Phil. Lect. in the Chapel.

23. Professor Dagget held a Div<sup>y</sup> Lect. in the Chapel.

26. Ldsdy. I preached for Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williston of W. Haven.

27. Nulla datur Calor in Igne. Chester 2 Respondens. News Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> of 10th Febry, that Fleet 90 sail from N. York or what escaped the Storm landed 8 to 11 Thous<sup>d</sup> Troops at Edisto 30 M. fr. Charlest<sup>o</sup> & Inhab. under Anxiety. I estimate them 5000, which with 2000 in Georgia before, may make a Southern Army of 7000 under Sir Henry Clinton. The American Army may prove 5 or 6000 at & about Charlest<sup>o</sup> under Gen Lincoln.

28. Seniors forensic Dispute, Whether it is for the pub. Emolument that Representatives should be subject to & obliged to act or vote accord<sup>g</sup> to the Instructions of their Constituents?

29. No philosophical Lecture. Rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter of 22<sup>d</sup> Inst. fr. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Guild of Harv. Coll. advising a Bill in Mass. Assembly for erecting an Amer. Academy of Arts & Sciences incorporat<sup>g</sup> 40 Gentlemen—& that he is embarking for Europe to land at Nantz & then via Paris to Holl<sup>d</sup> on Travels.

30. I attended Rev. Mr. Edwds Sacram<sup>t</sup> Lecture: & afterwards Professor Daggett's Div<sup>y</sup> Lect. in the Chapel. About 47 undergrad. in Town.

31. For several days the Snow generally gone. But a N.E. Snow Storm all this day has covered the Earth again with Snow ankle deep.

Apr.

1. For several days raw & cold, altho' the Snow is gone off. An Aurora Bor. night before last. Yesterday a violent N.E. Snow Storm clothed the Earth again with Snow ankle deep.

2. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached for Mr. Edwds, Luke xxiv, 35, 36, and partook of the Sacrament with his Chh. P.M. I preached for Mr. Whittelsey, Ps. 86, 111. Examining Scripture Texts. . . . .

3. Received Letters from Vermont of 27<sup>th</sup> ult. Seniors Syllogistic Disputation, "Nil præter Ideas immediate percipitur." Chester 2 Resp.

4. Whether Literature flourisheth best under a Tyranny or a Republic? Forensic Dispute. This day Sir Baldwin and my Son Ezra were examined by the Gentlemen of the Bar, and exhibited

their compositions on the Law : present Mess<sup>rs</sup> Johnson, Chauncy, Trumbull, Edwards, Hilhouse. And

5. They were by the bar recommended to the Judges of the County Court sitting in New Haven, Gen. Wadsworth Chief Judge, and approved by the Court and admitted to the Attorney's Oath and so qualified for the Bar. My son's Dissertation was upon the *Laws of Succession to Estates*. No. Phil. Lect. this day.

My Son Ezra Stiles jun. began to study Law *Ætat.* 17½ in a Vacation while senior Sophister at Harvard College. From Dec. 1777 to March 1778 he studied under the Hon. Judge Parker an eminent & learned Jurist at Portsmouth in New Hampshire. Upon the Family removing to New Haven that year, he studied under Mr. Charles Chauncy States Att<sup>o</sup> from Oct<sup>r</sup> 1778 until April 5, 1780 when he was called to the Bar, *æt.* 21 after being about 2½ years in the jural Studies—greatly interrupted partly by finishing his academic Residence, partly by Removal, & partly by the break<sup>g</sup> up of the fam<sup>y</sup> at N Haven at the Descent of the Enemy. During which Dispersion he studied under Mr. Trumbull a learned Lawyer. In the 2½ years Course of the jural Studies, he read the following books upon the Law, 40 Volumes, of which ten Folios.

|                                |                        |                              |                         |
|--------------------------------|------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Burlemacqui                    | 2 Vol. 8 <sup>vo</sup> | Bohuns Inst. leg.            | I                       |
| Montesquieu Spt. Laws          | 2 Vol. 8 <sup>vo</sup> | Declar <sup>a</sup>          | I                       |
| Ld. Kaims Hist. Law            | I                      | Boot on Suits at Law         | I Vol.                  |
| Blackstone Analy.              | I                      | Offic. Cler. Pac.            | I Vol.                  |
| Do Comment <sup>a</sup>        | 4 4 <sup>to</sup>      | Burns Just.                  | I                       |
| Woods Maxims                   | I Vol. Fol.            | Dalrymple —                  | I Vol. 12 <sup>mo</sup> |
| — Institutes                   | I                      | Tribonian. Inst. Jur. Civ.   | I                       |
| Coke on Littleton              | I                      | Puffendorf Law Nat. &c.      | I Vol. Fol.             |
| Bacons Abridg <sup>t</sup>     | 4                      | Poultons Crim. Law           | I                       |
| Hawkins Pleas Crown            | I                      | Salkield's Rep <sup>ts</sup> | I                       |
| Gilberts Law Evid.             | I 8 <sup>vo</sup>      | Burrow's Reports             | 2 Vol. 4 <sup>to</sup>  |
| D <sup>o</sup> Devises         | I                      |                              |                         |
| D <sup>o</sup> Tenures         | I                      | Also read in part,           |                         |
| Law of Bills Exch <sup>a</sup> | I                      | Godolphins Legacy Orph.      | 4 <sup>to</sup>         |
| Molloy Jur. Marit.             | 2                      | Raymonds Rep <sup>ts</sup>   | } Fol.                  |
| Hales Abridg <sup>t</sup>      | I                      | Holts Rep <sup>ts</sup>      |                         |
| Lex Test.                      | I                      | Showers Rep <sup>ts</sup>    |                         |
| Sullivan's Lect.               | I Vol. 8 <sup>vo</sup> | Pandectæ Jur. Civ. Lat.      |                         |

6. Divinity Lect. by Dr. Daggett in the Chapel. Gen. Clinton's fictitious Letter of 30th Janry. finely imagined.

7. One Kelsy of Middleton within a year or two has invented an



extraord<sup>y</sup> *Gigg-Mill*,<sup>1</sup> with one wheel only & that horizontal. The wheel is a conical Barrel six feet high, 3 ft. Diam. atop & 1½ f. Diam. at bottom, the Leaves or Buckets withinside, carried by a Column of Water 3 Inc. thick & 5 Inc. broad, entering atop into the inside and circumgyrating till it falls out below.—Another horizontal Mill of still more simple Construction is set up at Hadlyme by Mr. — only six Buckets at Bottom of a single Shaft which carries the Stone.

8. The Rev. Mr. Wetmore<sup>2</sup> of Stratford resigned the Ministry last Saturday, thro' Tenderness of Conscience, because he could not keep his Chh so pure as he wished. Beef 2½ Doll. p. lb.

9. Ldsdy. Attended Mr. Mathers Meet<sup>g</sup>. He preached A.M. on Mat. iv, 19. P.M. Acts ii, 37. I made first prayer P.M. Reading the learned and venerable Chamier.

10. No Disputation. Proxy—Rev. Mr. Trumbull preached Ps. xvi. 6.

11. Anima humana est immortalis, Cooke 1. Resp.

12. Professor Strong's Family being still at Newtown, & he not having given any Lectures since Dec. last, I this day took his Chair and gave a philosophical Lecture upon the Aurora Borealis, shewing that if it was not of an Altitude of above one or 2 Miles it could not be above 3 or 4, or 6 or 7 Miles from us, at least that part of it w<sup>e</sup> was an hour high. . . . If Aur. Bor. no higher than Clouds it is very near; phps. the ethereal substance of it may be almost as near as the Rainbow. It is a mistake to think it proceeds from under the Pole.

13. Professor Dagget gave his Div'y. Lecture in the Chapel. Ireland has armed 42 Thousd men, & their measures are arranged systematically. The Ministry give up all Acts of Brit. Parl<sup>t</sup> binding the Commerce of Ireland, except such a Limitation of Trade as the Irish Parl<sup>t</sup> give themselves, in laying the same duties on plant<sup>a</sup> Trade in both Kingdoms. So M<sup>r</sup> Molyneaux' Scheme conceived and asserted 80 Years ago, established. Irel<sup>d</sup>. will make their Fortune by the American War. Professor Smith from Dart. Coll. here, & brot. Letter from Col. Wheelock 5th Instant.

14. Surveying New Haven.

<sup>1</sup> See below, Diary, Nov. 8, 1780.

<sup>2</sup> Izrahiah Wetmore (Yale 1748), pastor of the Congregational Church in Stratford from 1753. He was afterwards settled in North Stratford, now Trumbull.

15. Writing Letters to President Witherspoon, Provost Smith and President Wheelock & Mr. Tutor Guild of Harv. College.

16. Ldsdy. A.M. M<sup>r</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup> preached Rom.—P.M. I preached for Mr Mather, Mat. xvi, 24. Mr. Mather admitted 3 Communicants by only assent<sup>s</sup> to the Covenant & without the Votes of the Brethren.

17. Betsys Birthday. Seniors Syllog. Disput<sup>a</sup>, Bellum ex utraque parte non est licitum. Munson Resp. A Deserter from N. York brot. the estimate of the British Force 13,630 of which 5600 Militia 2640 British—i. e. 8000 Exclusive of the Militia. On all L. Isld, Staten Isld & in the City may be 5000 Militia, but two Thirds are in the American Interest. Begin<sup>s</sup> this m<sup>o</sup> 2 or 3000 sailed for Carolina.

Mr. Hiltzheimer lately (4<sup>th</sup> March) Killed a great Cow in Philad<sup>a</sup>. The 4 Qu<sup>rs</sup> weighed 1347<sup>lbs</sup> Tallow 83<sup>lbs</sup> with Hide & C 416<sup>lbs</sup> tot. 1760<sup>lbs</sup>, the largest Cow ever known in America.

18. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale Coll. met here. [20th, Broke up.]

19. No Math. Lect. in College.

20. Professor Dagget gave a Div<sup>y</sup> Lect.

21. Emilia's Birthday, æt. 18.

22. I was very unwell.

23. Ldsdy. Being unwell, I did not go to Meeting. Reading Syriac Testament, & examining Texts. P.M. I read a Sermon of the Rev. James Pierpont on false Hopes Ps. 119, 116. preached in D<sup>r</sup> Mathers Chh. Boston 13<sup>th</sup> 4 m<sup>o</sup> 1711. Preface by D<sup>r</sup> Cotton Mather.<sup>1</sup> Also an Elect. Sermon 1717 by Mr. Cutler afterwards Rector.

26. Continental Fast. I preached at Mt. Carmel.

27. Divinity Lecture.

28. Dismissed Porter going to Mr. Dwights School in Northampton.<sup>2</sup>

30. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel. A.M. Isai. lxii, 1. P.M. Ps. xxxvi, 7. An Attentive Auditory.

## May

1. No Disputation. D. Gov. Griswold born 1714. So æt. 66.

<sup>1</sup> This sermon is noticed at length in Dr. Bacon's *Historical Discourses*, 193–97.

<sup>2</sup> The Rev. Timothy Dwight, afterwards President, was now at the head of a large private school for both sexes, in Northampton, Mass., which he hoped might grow into a College. Porter was a Sophomore.

2. Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>. Whether the Repeal of the Tender Act be unjust? Rev. Enos Hitchcock of Beverly resigned the Ministry there 28<sup>th</sup> March last. Also Rev. Mr. Grosvenor of Scituate & Rev. Mr. Baldwin of Hanover lately resigned :<sup>1</sup> all on acc<sup>o</sup> of failure of Support thro' Depreciation of the Currency.

3. Reading Sig. Carlo Denina, Professor of Eloquence & the belles Lettres in the University of Turin, his Essay on the Revolutions of Literature. This day Election at Rh. Isld :—and Ordin<sup>a</sup> of Mr. Fenn at Worthington.

4. Professor Daggett's Divinity Lecture. Foster applied for Dismission for Mr. Dwights School—it is said he expects 30 from the Jun. & Soph. Classes in this College.

5. The Senior Class finished the first Volume of Locke.

6. This day Vacation begins. Attended Deans Examination so called, when two candidates Robinson & Lewis of the Sen. Class were publicly examined four hours in Horace, Cic. de Orat. and Cic. Tusc. Quest. and also in the Greek Test. the lxx and Homer's Iliad. The Prize adjudged to Robinson whom I elected Scholar of the House upon Bp. Berkeleys Foundation. I was sole Examiner, no Episcopal Clergyman being present. There were also exhibited several Declamations for prizes.

This Term from Feb. 1. to May 6. we have had at the begin<sup>g</sup> about 30 Scholars soon increased to between 40 & 50 the general number—increased to 52. Vacation three weeks.

7. Ldsdy. I attended all at Mr. Whitt<sup>ys</sup>. He preached all day upon Josh. xxiv. 15. I partook of the Sacr<sup>t</sup>. The Congreg<sup>a</sup> P.M. full phps. 300 or 310 psons.

8. Marquis de la Fayette lately arrived at B<sup>o</sup> from France.

9. I sent a Letter to Gov. Tryon respect<sup>g</sup> the Destruction of President Claps MSS.—by Major Harnage of the Saratoga Convent<sup>n</sup> Troops, he going into N York by a Flag.<sup>2</sup>

Set out on Journey for Rhode Island.<sup>3</sup>

10. Via Middletown & Weth<sup>d</sup> in company with Dr. Dana. Lodged at Meriden.

11. At Hartford at the Gen. Election, Rev. Mr. Nathan Williams of Tolland preached. . . Votes for Gov. Trumbull 3598, Scatter<sup>g</sup>

<sup>1</sup> All of Massachusetts : Enos Hitchcock, Harvard, 1767 ; Ebenezer Grosvenor, Yale 1759 ; Samuel Baldwin, Harvard 1752.

<sup>2</sup> For the letter see this Diary, Dec. 30, 1779, the date when it was written.

<sup>3</sup> The account in the Diary is supplemented by notes from the Itinerary.



3668: so wanted 70 votes. D. G. Griswold had a sufficient Majority & he & the elected Assist. were qualified this Afternoon. The Question on the Gov<sup>r</sup>s Choice deferred till next day, when the Assembly confirmed his Election. By Act of Assembly a Plurality of Votes sufficient for the Choice of an Assist<sup>ts</sup>;—not so for Governor.

12. Ferry 2 Doll. Rode to Norwich.<sup>1</sup>

14. I kept Sabb. at Preston & preached all day for Mr. Rossiter.

15. Oats 2 Doll. at Hopkinton. Lodged at Mr. Carpenters 7 Doll. [My Son Ezra Stiles æt. 21 set out for Westminster in Vermont to settle there in the Law for the present.]

16. Narrag. ferry 15 Doll. Arrived in Newport and visited Ruins.

17. Viewing the Desolations in Newport.

19. Remarkable *Darkness* from X A.M. to VIII P.M. especially from XI $\frac{1}{2}$  to II $\frac{1}{2}$ . The Description of it, as I observed it in Newport, & draughted the account printed in the next Days Newspaper, was thus; "The 19<sup>th</sup> Inst there fell *here* (Newport) a singular & very remarkable Darkness, which overspread the Hemisphere for about five hours. In the Morn<sup>g</sup> were showers attended with distant Thunder. About Ten o'clock A.M. a Darkness came on, which by Eleven was poeived to be very unusual & extraord<sup>y</sup>., and in half an hour after was considered as what was never before seen in these Northern Climates in America. The Darkness became & continued so intense from a little before noon to near Two o'clock, as that persons could not read, & it became necessary to light up Candles. (A Glin of Light in the edge of S.W. Horizon.) The Inhabitants were thereupon thrown into a phps. unnecessary Consternation, as if the appearance was preternatural. A little after Two P.M. it became somewhat lighter, but the Darkness soon returned. About Three o'clock it began to go off, & at four P.M.

<sup>1</sup> The following Note in the Itinerary belongs to this date:

At East Hartford or 5 m. from Connect. River saw an Indian Idol of Stone. It was found about 1755 by Mr. Silas Spencer who shewed it to me & gave me the acc<sup>t</sup> of it. He was born 1705, æt. 75. He says he cleared up the Land about 25 y. ago & it looks like new Ground now, the Ind. name of the place is Wyketassick. It stood in the Ground a little declining—the place about it somewhat cleared—& abundance of Indian Hatchets & Arrows found in that Ground. He gave it to Yale College. It has something of a human Appearance being a cut or carved Stone perhaps three feet long &  $\frac{1}{2}$  foot to a foot thick. No Tradition about it. The Indians tho' once numerous at Hartf<sup>s</sup> ever concealed it.

the Heavens resumed their usual Light as in a cloudy day, altho' the cloudiness continued all the rest of the Afternoon. A Tornado or Tempest, or someth<sup>e</sup> very unusual was expected by all: but tho' there was a small breeze from S.W. during the whole Darkness, & espec<sup>y</sup> about one o'clock, yet nothing tempestuous happened, the whole passing over with only a few drops of rain. Such appearances have been observed in other parts of the World, as on the Coast of Africa, & in Europe, & part<sup>y</sup> in London A. D. 1679. But such a Phænomenon has phps. never happened here since the English Settle<sup>m</sup>t of this Country. And it is not recollected from History that a Darkness of equal Intenseness & Duration has ever happened in any parts of the World, except in Egypt, and at the miraculous Eclipse at the Crucifixion of our Blessed Savior. However this Darkness is undoubtedly a phænomenon, w<sup>e</sup> may be accounted for by the Laws of Nature, without having recourse to any Thing miraculous or ominous. It could not however be ascribed to a solar Eclipse, because the Moon was nearly in opposition, as a lunar Eclipse fell the preceding day. It may be considered as a very extensive Sheet of very dense Cloud, stationary & suspended in the Atmosphere over this and the adjacent places, there being no Current of Air sufficient to carry & remove it forward. This penetrated by the Meridian solar rays, produced the yellow Duskiness which overshadowed us, transfusing a yellow Hue over all visible Nature. It is to be desired that curious & philosophical Gentlemen would favor the public with a solution of this phænomenon. There is nothing terrible in it, more than in the Coruscations of the Aurora Borealis. However the unusual as well as the common appearances in the Nat. World ought to lead our Tho'ts up to the Author of Nature, & the Energies of his irresistible power, that we may be filled with a reverential awe of the divine Majesty." [At Newport about Noon or 1<sup>h</sup> a Ball of fire was seen to pass swiftly & southerly over the water between the T<sup>n</sup> & Conanacott.]

20. News in Newport of the Enemys Attack & Repulse at Charlest<sup>s</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> about 25<sup>th</sup> ult.

21. Ldsdy. I preached to my dear Flock in the Ruins of my meetinghouse A.M. Ps. xxxvi, 7. P.M. Jno. i, 7, and notified the Sacrament. We had 66 Benches contain<sup>g</sup> 5 or 6 psons each, making a Congreg<sup>a</sup> of 350 persons. about 23 of w<sup>e</sup> were my Flock. I judge Two Thirds of my Congreg<sup>a</sup> are returned to Newport. The Enemy

had run up a Chimney in the middle of the Meetinghouse, & demolished all the Pews & Seats below & in the Galleries; but they left the Pulpit stand<sup>2</sup>, tho' they destroyed the pulpit in the other Presb. Meetingh. & in two Baptist Meetings. My little zealous Flock took down the Chimney & cleared the Meetinghouse, & then procuring some Benches & Tables made for the Kings Troops Entertainments & left behind. So that we attended divine Service very conveniently—tho' with a Pleasure intermixt with tender Grief.

22. My Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> held a parochial or Congregation Meeting this Afternoon to take care of the Congregation. They were unwilling to relinquish me and consider my pastoral Relation dissolved: they would gladly Consent to my Absence during the War, but would consider me as their pastor. And voted as follows. "Voted That it is the wish & desire of this Meeting to support publick Worship in this place and that we will contribute for that purpose accord<sup>2</sup> to our respective abilities. And whereas from the present Situation of this Town, and the appointment of the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Ezra Stiles our present Pastor to the Presidency of Yale College, we cannot expect his return the ensuing Summer; It is therefore further voted that D<sup>r</sup> Stiles be requested to procure as soon as may be a Clergyman to officiate in this place (—the congregational Meetinghouse in Clark street) for two or three Sabbaths, & that we will make him an allowance adequate to his service.

"D<sup>r</sup> Stiles having represented to the meeting that he had in consequence of the advice & recommendation of such of the members of the Congregation as he could advise with, accepted of the Presidency of Yale College. This meeting having taken the same into Consideration do approve of his Conduct therein."

23 & 24. Visiting my Flock.

25. Preached a Lecture at Tiverton.

26. I preached my sacramental Lect. in Newport.

27. I baptized Ezra Stiles Bissel son of Mr. Job Bissel.

28. Ldsdy. I preached to my Flock A.M. Cant. ii, 2-4 and administered the Lds. Supper to 32 Communicants. P.M. I preached again & baptized William Ellery Channing<sup>1</sup> son of the Hon. Wm. Channing Esq. Att<sup>o</sup> Gen. of the State of Rh. Isld.

29. This day 5 years ago died my dear Wife—never—never to be forgotten. I baptized 5 children, viz. Philip & James sons of Col.

<sup>1</sup> Born April 7; afterwards the distinguished Unitarian clergyman of Boston.



Jn<sup>o</sup> Topham & Ann his wife—Susanna D. of Richard Simpson & Mary his wife—Hannah & Mary children of Capt. Jn<sup>o</sup> Grimes & Eliz<sup>a</sup> his wife she owning the Covenant before three of the Chh.—& a posthumous child Mary Richardson Toman D. of Martha Toman by her deceased Husband Cap<sup>t</sup> Jn<sup>o</sup> Toman.

30. Visiting my Congreg<sup>a</sup>. Spent the Even<sup>g</sup> with M<sup>r</sup> Marchant, with whom I visited his Excellency Gov. Greene this day come to T<sup>n</sup> with the Marquis de la Fayette his Aid, taking measures respecting the French Fleet expected here. The Governor asked me to take care of a son he intended to send to Y. C. next Commencement.

31. I took a melancholly farewell, & left Newport on Return for New Haven. About three hundred Dwellinghouses I judge have been destroyed in Newport. The Town is in Ruins. But with Nehemiah I could prefer the very dust of Zion to the Gardens of Persia, and the broken Walls of Jerusalem to the Palaces of Sushan. I rode over the Isld and found the beautiful Rows of Trees which lined the Roads, with sundry Coppices or Groves & Orchards cut down and laid waste; but the natural Beauties of the Place still remain. And I doubt not the place will be rebuilt & excede its former splendor.

Ferriage round Canonicut 50 Doll. pd. Franklin 25 Doll. Lodged at Tower Hill.

June.

1. Rode to Stonington to Mr. Chesebro's.

3. Arrived at E. Guilfd. Reck<sup>d</sup> at Lyme 2/6. pd. 30 Doll. so Doll. = one penny.

4. Ldsdy. I kept Sabb. and preached for the Rev. Mr. Todd at East Guilford, A.M. Isai. 45, 22. P.M. Acts 26, 28. Mr. Todd was born at New Haven, March 20, 1713.<sup>1</sup>

5. I arrived at New Haven & found my Family all well; my Son Ezra having set off 15<sup>th</sup> May for Vermont. My children have been well & all Things comfortable in my Absence, Deo O. M. Grates.

I also found the College collecting apace. The Tutors set up orders Saturday, 27<sup>th</sup> ult. and there are 90 Students already convened, and Recitations & Commons are set up,

6. The Committee of the Corporation here. Qu<sup>r</sup> Bills made up.

<sup>1</sup> Jonathan Todd (Yale 1732), son of Jonathan Todd, of what is now North Haven, born March 9, 1712-13 O. S.

7. Employed in Location of the College chambers.<sup>1</sup> Professor Strong held a Philosophical Lecture. Upon my Return I received sundry Letters, as one from President Witherspoon &c. The Senior class began Locke on Hum. Und. v, 2d.

8. I exhibited my Historical Lecture upon the Reformation.

9. Received from Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Green of Hanover in N. Jersey, a Latin philosophical MS. of the Rev. Rector Pierson whose Grand Daughter Mr. Green married.

Mr. Green in his Lett. dated Hanover 13 May 1780 writes: "Mr. Abraham Pierson, a brief account of whom D<sup>r</sup> Mather gives us in

<sup>1</sup> The following catalogue of college students and their rooms for this year is found among Dr. Stiles's papers. "E" and "W" indicate the front and back rooms respectively, on what is now known as South Middle College, the numbering running consecutively across each floor from south to north, beginning with the lowest:

## SENIORS

Barnet }  
Bostwick } Old Coll.  
Chester 1 }  
Chester 2 } No. 13 E.  
Cogswell 7 E.  
Cooke 1 Mr. Sabins  
Ely Mr. Fairchilds  
Fowler 1 7 E.  
Griswold 1 }  
Griswold 2 } 10 E.  
Lay Mr. Fairchilds  
Lewis 1 12 E.  
Lord 1 10 E.  
Mosely 7 E.

Munson his Fathers  
Nott Old Coll.  
Phelps 1 Mr. Austins  
Pixley  
Potter } 16 E.  
Robinson }  
Russel Mr. Botsfords house  
Tomlinson  
Tyler Mr. Shermans—eat in Hall  
Whiting his Fathers  
Williams 1 Old Coll.  
Williams 2 Mr. J. Shermans  
Woodbridge 8 E.

27

## JUNIORS

Atwater 9 W.  
Baldwin 12 W.  
Boardman Mr. Baldwins  
Breed 14 E.  
Burrall Mr. Baldwins  
Channing 9 W.  
Farrand  
Gridly 1 } 12 E.  
Hinckley } eats Mr. Baldwins  
Isaacs 14 E. dines at Mr. B—s  
Kent 14 E.  
Lanckton 12 W.  
Miller Deacon Balls  
Newell 13 W.

Noyes 1 5 W.  
Parmele Mr. Baldwins  
Perkins Deacon Balls  
Searl Mr. Edwds.  
Smith 1 5 W.  
Stebbins 13 W.  
Tomlinson 2 Mr. Joel Atwaters  
Welles 12 W.  
Williams 3. 13 W. boards Mr. Hotchkiss  
Wooster 1 Mr. Joel Atwaters  
Wooster 2 Mr. Ogdens  
Wright. Mr. Mixs

26

his *Magnalia* p. 95, was Father to RECTOR PIERSON, whose name was also *Abraham*. Dr Mather gives us some account of the Rectors Father till he settled at Branford in Connecticut. And I may

## SOPHIMORI

|                       |                                        |
|-----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Beck                  | King 16 W.                             |
| Bowen 15              | Lovett Mr. Isaac Beers                 |
| Canfield 11 W.        | Merwin 16 W.                           |
| Chaffee               | Noyes 2 Old Coll. 3 <sup>d</sup> Loft  |
| Cornell 8 W.          | Robbins Mr. Isaac Beers                |
| Crocker 6 E.          | Root 10 W.                             |
| Dana 6 W.             | Selden 1 15 E.                         |
| [Foster dism. July 1] | Sheldon                                |
| Fuller 1 5 E.         | Sturges 9 E.                           |
| Garnsey 10 W.         | Thompson 11 W.                         |
| Honeywood 8 W.        | Wait 6 W.                              |
| Hooker 1 6 E.         | Warner 1 14 & 15                       |
| Hooker 2              | Williams 4 16 W.                       |
| Hosmer Northampton    | Woodruff Old Coll. 3 <sup>d</sup> Loft |
| Ives                  | [Willard admitted July 13, 1780] 28    |

## RECENTES

|                                |                             |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Adams Mr. Shermans shop [7 W.] | Lord 2 15 W.                |
| Babcock                        | Lyman 9 E.                  |
| Bissel                         | Masters 3 E.                |
| Brainerd Mr. Baldwins          | Merick Mr. Joel Atwaters    |
| Brown 1 4 E.                   | Morse 4 W.                  |
| Brown 2 15 W.                  | Pearse 3 E.                 |
| Brown 3 4 E.                   | Pease 3 W.                  |
| Burbanks                       | Penfield 2 W.               |
| Cole 8 E.                      | Phelps 2 3 W.               |
| Colton 1 W.                    | Pitkin Mr. Shermans shop    |
| Cook 2 Mr. Joel Atwaters       | Ripley 7 W.                 |
| Davis                          | Rockwell dism. July 7, 1780 |
| Diman 2 W.                     | Selden 2 Buttery            |
| [Fellows dism. June 1780]      | Smith 3 2 E.                |
| Fowler 2 Mrs. Mansfields       | Spencer 1 1 E.              |
| Fuller 2 Mr. Woodhulls         | Spencer 2 1 E.              |
| Gilbert at his Fathers         | Stiles his Fathers          |
| Goodrich 5 E.                  | Storrs Mr. Woodhulls        |
| Gridley 2 3 E.                 | Warner 2                    |
| Hall Mr. Joel Atwaters         | Weed Deacon Balls           |
| Holmes 4 W.                    | White 7 W.                  |
| Johnson 2 W.                   | Williams 5                  |
| Josleyne his Fathers           | Williston Mr. Gilberts      |
| Kingsbury 1                    | Woolcott 1 W.               |
| do. 2 2 E.                     | Gold Mr. Munsons            |
| Lewis 2 Mr. Joel Atwaters      | Gregg Mr. Gilberts          |



observe that the said Mr. Abraham Pierson after he had been settled some time at Branford, removed thence with the greater part of his Congregation & settled a tract of new Land on a pleasant River in New Jersey, which has ever since been known by the name of Newark. The sd. Mr. Ab<sup>m</sup> Pierson lived & died the first Minister of Newark in New Jersey. His Son Abraham, who was afterwards Rector, he sent to the College at Cambridge in New England, who took his degree there in the year 1668, as you may see by the Catalogue. After leaving he that was afterwards Rector was settled in the Ministry at Newark a Colleague with his Father some years before his Father's Death. After his Father's Death the son remained some years sole Minister at Newark; but at length upon some Difference about Presbyterianism, he *removed from Newark & settled at Killingworth* in Connecticut. This was about the year 1690 or 1692. My Wife's Father, who about nine years ago died at my House, was born at Newark, & with his Father removed to Killingworth, when about two years old, and was afterwards among some of the first Students under the Rector his Father; but being young he did not enter the Classes till his Father had had the Care of the College seven or eight years. These Things I had from my Father Pierson's mouth, but have no manuscript accounts of them at all." Jacob Green."

This Mr. Greens Father in Law Pierson graduated 1711, and became Minister of Woodbridge near Elizabethtown. Rector Pierson died at Killingworth March 5, 1706/7, æt. 61.

[Began the pub. exposition of the Savoy Confession of Faith a 2<sup>d</sup> time.]

10. Present above one hundred Undergraduates in College. [The Senior Class began President Clap's Ethics.]

11. Lordsday. I attended with all my Family in the College Chapel. Professor Dagget preached on the Attribute of the Divine Holiness from Levit. 19. 2, being in the course of a Body of Divinity. Examining passages of Scripture in the Original. . . . .

12. Syllogistic Disput<sup>s</sup>. Polygamia ist illicita. Griswold Resp.

#### ACCOUNT OF THE DARKNESS AT WORCESTER 19 MAY.

"The Morn<sup>g</sup> of the day was overcast with Clouds and rainy. Before Nine o'clock the Rain in a great measure ceased, the clouds appeared more agitated and the air began to darken. For several hours in the middle of the day the Obscurity was so great that those who had good Eyesight could scarcely see to read common print; the birds and fowls in many places retired to Roost as

tho' it had been actually night, & pple were obliged to light Candles to dine by. It was the Judg' of many that at about twelve o'clock (the Time of the greatest Obscurity) the day Light was not greater, if so great, as that of bright Moon Light, which by calculation has been found to be 90,000 times less than that of a clear sun-shiny day; during this whole time, a sickly melancholy Gloom overcast the face of Nature. Nor was the Darkness of the *Night* less uncommon or terrifying than that of the day: notwithstanding there was almost a full Moon, *no Object was discernable*, but by the help of some Artificial Light, w<sup>o</sup> when seen from some of the neighboring houses & other places, at a distance, appeared thro' a kind of Egyptian Darkness w<sup>o</sup> seemed almost impervious to the Rays."—Extr. fr. the Worcester print 25<sup>th</sup> May.

The singular Darkness of the Night following was observed at Newport & generally elsewhere.

#### DARKNESS OBSERVED AT IPSWITCH MAY 19, 1780.

At the house of the Rev. Mr. Cutler "The Hemisphere had for several days been greatly obscured with Smoke & Vapour so that the Sun & Moon appeared unusually red. On Thursdy Aft. & in the Even<sup>g</sup> a *thick Cloud lay along at the South & S. West*, the Wind small. Friday Morn<sup>g</sup> early the sun appeared red, as it had done for several days before, the wind about S. W. a light breeze, & the Clouds from the S. W. came over. *Between Eight & nine o'clock* the sun was quite shut in, & it began to shower, the Clouds continuing to rise from the S. W. and thicken. From the Thickness of the Clouds, & the Confusion which attended their motions we expected a violent Gust of Wind & Rain. The Wind however near the Earth continued small, & it rained but little. About *Eleven o'clock* the Darkness was such as to demand our Attention, & put us upon making Observations. At half past Eleven, in a Room with three windows, twenty-four panes each, all open towards the South East & South, large Print could not be read by persons of good eyes. About *Twelve o'clock* the Windows being still open, a Candle cast a Shade so well defined on the Wall, as that *Profiles were taken* with as much ease as they could have been in the Night. About *One o'clock* a *Glin* of Light, which had continued till this time in the East, shut in, and the *Darkness was greater* than it had been for any Time before. Between one and two o'clock the Wind from the West freshened a little, & a *Glin* appeared in that Quarter (This *Glin* in S. W. noted at Newport). We dined about Two, the Windows all open, and *two Candles burning on the Table*. In the time of the greatest Darkness, some of the Dunghill fowls went to Roost, Cocks crowed in answer to one another, Wood-Cocks which are night Birds whistled as they do *only* in the dark, Frogs peeped; in short, there was the appearance of Midnight at Noonday. About *Three o'clock* the *Light in the West increased*, the motions of the Clouds more quick, their Colour higher and more *brassy* than at any time before. There appeared to be quick flashes or Corruscations not unlike the Aur<sup>o</sup> Borealis. Between three & four we were out and perceived a strong sooty smell. Some of the Comp<sup>s</sup> were confident a Chimney in the Neighborhood must be burning; others conjectured the smell was more like that of burnt Leaves. About *half past four*, our Company,

which had past an unexpected Night very chearfully together, broke up. I will now give you what I noticed afterwards. I found the pple at the Tavern near by much agitated. Among other things w<sup>e</sup> gave them surprize, they mentioned the strange appearance & smell of the Rain Water w<sup>e</sup> they had saved in Tubbs. Upon examin<sup>g</sup> the water I found a *Light Scum over it*, w<sup>e</sup> rubbing between my fingers I found to be nothing but the *black Ashes of burnt Leaves*. The Water gave the same strong sooty smell which we had observed in the Air, & confirmed me in my opinion that the Smell above was occasioned by the Smoke, or very small Particles of burnt Leaves, w<sup>e</sup> had obscured the Hemisphere for several days past, & were now bro't down by the Rain.—The vast Body of Smoke from the *Woods w<sup>e</sup> had been burning for many days*, mixing with the common Exhal<sup>s</sup> from the Earth & Water, & condensed by the Action of Winds from opposite points, may perhaps be sufficient Causes to produce the surprizing Darkness.

The Wind in the Even<sup>g</sup> passed round *further North*, where a black Cloud lay & gave us Reason to expect a Gust from that Quarter. The wind brought that Body of Smoke a Vapour over us in the Evening (at Salem) & phps it never was darker since the Children of Israel left the house of Bondage. The gross Darkness held till about One o'clock, tho' the Moon had fulled but the day before. Between 1 & two the wind freshened up at NE & drove the smoke and clouds away, w<sup>e</sup> had given Distress to Thousds. & alarmed even the Brute Creation.

VIATOR."

Viator was perhaps the philosophic And<sup>w</sup> Oliver Esq. of Salem [or Professor Sewall who happened at Ipswitch]. "The observations from the first com<sup>g</sup> on of the Darkness, to four o'clock P. M. were made by several Gentlemen of Liberal Education at the House of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Cutler of Ipswitch Hamlet."

#### DARKNESS 19 MAY OBS. ELSEWHERE.

It was at Boston, Piscataqua & as far eastward as : also aboard the Prisonship at New York, at Fort Edward on Hudsons River, and as high as above Rupert in Vermont & how far beyond I have not yet heard. Cap<sup>t</sup> Grimes tells me he was that day in Lat. 36 N. but no Darkness there, fresh Breeze at S. W. At New Haven it was nearly calm, Clouds reached half way down the Neck Rock, greatest Darkness between Eleven and Twelve. At Middletown & Durham not so dark as at other places, the sun visible for most of the time as seen thro' Clouds or thick hazy Air. Mr. Spencer of Amenia tells me it was very dark at IX Partners and Amenia in Oblong & extended back to the River, and as high as Fort Edw<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Barlow informs that it was observed as high as Rupert where he was that day. He says the Morn<sup>g</sup> was dark as



before break o'day, so that the day did not seem to break. The greatest Darkness was at Eight o'clock in the Morn<sup>g</sup>—so that they had Candles at Breakfast. It was cloudy all day: but by Ten o'clock the Darkness was so far gone that it was as light as usual. Mountains half a mile off invisible. Thunder and Rain at Rupert in Darkness. Mr. Barlow says, the Woods about Ticonderoga, & all through the Grants, and Eastw<sup>d</sup> over to N. Hampshire, & Westw<sup>d</sup> into York Gov<sup>t</sup> & the Jersies, were all on Fire for a Week or more before this Darkness, and the Smoke in the Wilderness almost to Suffocation. Two causes of the Extensiveness of the Forest Fires beyond what was ever known—one, viz, No Rain since last Fall, & the Woods excessively dry: another, that such a profusion of Settlers pushing back into the Wilderness were everywhere clearing Land & burning Brush. This set the Forests afire far beyond Intention, so as to burn Houses & Fences. He says he was at Arlington when the Fires began there on 12<sup>th</sup> May; & they raged so on Ldsdy 14<sup>th</sup> at Rupert that he was employed in pulling Fence out of the Fires. He says the sun for several days before 19<sup>th</sup> appeared as thro' a smoked Glass, & always invisible an hour before sunset by reason of Clouds & dense Atmosphere. The Woods burned extensively for a Week before 19<sup>th</sup> May, & the Wind all the while northerly.

If this Darkness was owing to this extensive conflagration, altho' this might furnish cloud eno', yet it is wonderful that the Darkness should be universally on the same day, with a difference of phps. not six hours from Ticonderoga to Rh. Isld. The Darkness extended from about MorrisT<sup>o</sup> in Jersey around by F<sup>t</sup> Edw<sup>d</sup> on Hudsons River, above Rupert in the Grants & round to Cascow Bay or farther, covering particularly the four N. Engld States, the State of New York & part of Jersies.

“Petersburg Jan'y 20, 1780. A Supplem<sup>t</sup> to the Geogr<sup>a</sup> Calendar of this city, announces the appearance of a *Comet* in the course of this year & the next. Accord<sup>s</sup> to the Table of *Professor Lenell* which indicates the Degrees of Longit. and Lat. thro' w<sup>e</sup> it will pass in the Heavens, it will be visible from the month of May 1780 to the End of April 1781.” Extr. fr. Lond. Art. in prints. I think no Comet tarries so long below the Orbit of Mars, or within a Space in the System of Visibility to this Earth. However it is now June & I do not find the comet has been seen. Some Gent. at Boston seeing this prediction, began to imagine the Darkness

here of 19<sup>th</sup> May owing to an Immersion of the Earth in the Atmosphere or Capillitium of this Comet.

13. Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup> by the Seniors, Whether Polygamy is lawful? I made the following appointments for the July Examination of Candidates viz. Fowler—Cliosopic Orat. Latin.

|            |   |                            |
|------------|---|----------------------------|
| Barnet     | } | forensic Disputation, Eng. |
| Woodbridge |   |                            |
| Tyler      |   |                            |
| Whiting    |   |                            |
| Chester 2  | } | Dialogue                   |
| Cooke 1    |   |                            |
| Griswold 2 |   |                            |
| Russel     |   |                            |

Phelps 1—Eng. Orat. on belles Lettres.

Valedictory Orat. Eng. To be chosen by the Sen. Class.

Bostwick—English Poem.

Quest. Whether America would be more happy as a part of the British Empire, than as an Independ<sup>t</sup> Republick? or

Whether America would be more happy in a subordinate connexion with Great Britain, than in Independency?

#### ACC<sup>o</sup>. DARKNESS 19 MAY OBS. AT PROVIDENCE.

“For several days past the Atmosphere has been remarkably charged with dry smoky Vapours, so that the Sun might be viewed easily with the naked Eyes. & Spots on his Disk were very plainly seen thro’ the greater part of some days. The Disk of the Moon thro’ the Nights of Tuesday, Wed<sup>s</sup> & Thursdy last, was of a reddish Copper Colour, somewhat resembl<sup>t</sup> her appear<sup>a</sup>. at the Time of her being totally eclipsed. There was very little Wind & few clouds were to be seen during these days. Yesterday Morning early (May 19) the Weather was hazy, and the Wind then at S. E. At a little after six o’clock the Wind shifted to nearly due West, and in about half an hour after, the Weather continuing to thicken, the Wind veered back to the S. E. and it began to rain gently. About half past nine the Rain ceased, & at *Ten the cloudy Vapours* were so condensed, as to cause a considerable Privation of the Suns Rays. The Darkness thence occasioned, continued to increase *until half past Twelve* o’clock; at which time there was nearly the same degree & Appear<sup>a</sup> of Light as at about half an hour after sunset when the Moon is first visible after the change. Common Business was wholly superseded, and that w<sup>o</sup> was necessary obliged to be performed, tho’ at noonday, by Candle Light. During the Increase of Darkness there was *very little Wind*, but at three quarters past Twelve the Wind coming out of the South West, the Darkness began to decline, & continued gradually to lessen until about Two o’clock, when the Air recovered the usual Appearances of a cloudy day.”—Extract Provid. Gazette, May 20, 1780.

One of the Senior Class of Yale Coll. was journeying thro' Jersey & N. York State to N. Haven. He left Morris Town & Springfield on Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May just a week before . . . . & came to Greens farms four or 5 miles beyond Fairfield on Thursday Even<sup>g</sup> 18<sup>th</sup>. He says the Air was very thick & smoky all the way, esp<sup>y</sup> Wedn<sup>y</sup> & Thursday, so that the Sun appeared as in smoke, red, &c. The Air not much agitated. The Sun sat very red Thursday Even<sup>g</sup>. At Greensfarms the Morn<sup>g</sup> of the 19<sup>th</sup> or Friday Morn<sup>g</sup> dark, showery, Thunder. After Breakfast he set out, & rid<sup>s</sup> 4 Miles by X or XI A.M. he found the Darkness so increased that he could not see the Meetgh. half a mile off, nor see Long Isld. He reached Ripton by II P.M. The Height of the Darkness was about X or XI, not so great but that he could read in it as he tried. As he came onward, he found by pples Talk it had been darker & darker as far as Hartf<sup>d</sup>, where they dined by Candles. Another Senior Sophister was at IX Partners where he tells me the Darkness was considerable but not equal to what is represented eastward. He says the Gen. Assembly of N. York were that day sitting at Pough-keepsing or Esopus, & remarked the Darkness—but did not break up or adjourn upon its Acc<sup>o</sup>., as the Gen. Assembly of Connecticut did then sitting at Hartford, it being there too dark to read & transact Business. Q. What hour did they adjourn.

PROFESSOR DAGGETTS ACC<sup>o</sup> OF THE DARKNESS AT YALE COLLEGE.

"On Friday last the 19<sup>th</sup> Inst. there was a very unusual Appearance in the Atmosphere. About daybreak in the Morn<sup>g</sup> there was a Shower of Rain with some Lightning & Thunder. The Rain continued with Intervals till after Sun rising. The Morn<sup>g</sup> was cloudy & darkish, and the sun rising towards the Zenith gave no Increase of Light as usual: but on the contrary, the Darkness rather increased till between Eleven & Twelve oclock, at w<sup>o</sup> Time there was the greatest Obscurity here. At this time, what little motion there was in the air was nearly from the South from the standing of the Vanes on the Steeples, it being however as calm as any summer morn<sup>g</sup>. There was something more of a luminous appear<sup>a</sup> in the Horizon, than in the Hemisphere in general. An uncommon lively Verdure in the Grass & other green Vegetables was observable: an unusual yellowness in the Atmosphere which made clean silver nearly resemble the Color of Brass. Between XI and Twelve the singular Obscurity ceased. The greatest Darkness was at least equal to what is commonly called Candle-lighting in the Evening.

The Appear<sup>a</sup> was indeed uncommon, & the Cause unknown. Yet there is no reason to consider it as supernatural or ominous. It is therefore hoped that no persons, whether of a vapoury Constitution of Body, or an enthusiastic Turn of mind, will be in the least terrified by it, or inspired to prophesy any future Events, till they shall come to pass."—Extract fr. N. Haven paper 25<sup>th</sup> May.



D<sup>r</sup> Gale tells me that when he was an Undergraduate in Y. Coll. 1732 being at Meeting in N. Haven on a Lordsday the Town & Meetingh. became so filled with a smoky Air, that it was difficult to descern persons across the Meetghouse. Upon Inquiry it was found so all along to the Westward. That at length all were satisfied that it was driven hither from a Cedar-swamp which had taken fire at Egg Harbour. . . .

The Drought is very severe and threatens, if continued a few days longer, the cutting off the English Harvest. Last Week the Ministers of the Town agreed on this day for a Season of Prayer & Supplication to God for Rain. And at III<sup>h</sup> P.M. the three Presbyterian Congregations assembled in the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Whittelseys large Meetingh. a very large & crowded assembly—and united in humble Prayer to God for the Blessing of Rain. Mr. Whitt<sup>y</sup> made the first prayer fifty five Minutes long: Mr. Mather preached a serious & pious Sermon. I made the concluding Prayer. Such a united Congreg<sup>a</sup> has not been seen in New Haven these fourty years. Devotion, Humility, & suppliant Importunity sat visibly on the Aspect of the Assembly. We prayed God, I hope from the heart, to be entreated of by us, that our Supplications might come up into the Ears of the Lord of Sabaoth. We continued in Prayer in the House of God about two hours or more. By Even<sup>e</sup> the sky became overcast with Clouds. And

14. Last night & this Morn<sup>e</sup> it has pleased Gd to send us a blessed Rain, I trust in Answer to prayer—for he has stiled himself a prayer hearing God—blessed be his holy Name! He is the Father of the Rain & begetteth the Drops of the Dew.— Calculat<sup>e</sup> on the depth of water in Vessels abroad, there appears to have fallen at least an Inch and half depth of Rain, or about a Tenth part of the usual Quantity for a year. A Brass Kittle two feet Diam. & fifteen Inches deep was full & run<sup>e</sup> over with water catched only from the Eaves of a Kitchen Roof ten feet broad, without a Trough. The Area of the Kettle three feet or about one Tenth of that part of Roof discharg<sup>e</sup> its water into the Kettle. So one Inch depth water on Roof fills ten Inches of Kettle. So Total Rain  $1\frac{1}{2}$  Inch.

There is a Literary Society lately formed spontaneously and incorporated by the Gen. Assembly of Massachusetts in April or May last, by the Name of the *American Academy of Arts & Sciences*, consisting of about sixty Gentlemen of Learning in Mass. Bay.

## DARKNESS AT DETROIT 1762.

On the Occasion of the singular Darkness of May 19<sup>th</sup> 1780 Accounts have been recollected & published in the prints concern<sup>s</sup> a singular Darkness at Detroit (1762) on the Water between Lake Erie & L. Huron. . . . .

Quære. Could the Darkness of 1762 be effected by burning Forests? The Darkness of 1762 was of equal Intensity and greater Duration, tho' not phps of so great an Extent as this of 1780.

15. I exhibited my Lect. in the Chapel; consist<sup>s</sup> in an Enumeration & Description of XII Capital Errors in the Chh of Rome. Professor Strong had no Phil. Lect. yesterday. We now have 110 Undergrad. in Town of w<sup>o</sup> 75 reside in the College Edifice. There has been a severe Action lately in the Jersies; of which & of the supposed Taking of Charlest<sup>o</sup> we have yet uncertain Accounts. Sir Jn<sup>o</sup> Johnson with about five hundred of the En<sup>y</sup> came thro' L. Champlain, Crownp<sup>t</sup> &c to Johnson Hall the Family Seat on Mohawk River, where on Monday 21<sup>st</sup> of May they burned thirty three houses & outhouses & a mill, killed Eleven psons, took some stock, & marched away that Even<sup>g</sup>. The En<sup>y</sup> from N. York have lately made several Excursions to Hackinsack on one side and to Horseneck or Greenwich on this side; where there seems to have been a considerable Action last week.

16. Many believe Rivington's Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Tak<sup>g</sup> of Charlest<sup>o</sup> 12<sup>th</sup> May.

17. God mercifully grants us Rain.

18. Ldsdy. I attended with six Children at the College Chapel. The Professor of Divinity preached all day upon the Attribute of Justice in God, from Ps. cxix, 137. Present 80 Scholars. Reading Melchior Adam's Life of Calvin.

19. Jus Regum non est Jure Divino hæreditarium. Lord 1 Resp.

20. Whether, tho' by the fall man lost his Moral power, yet he still retains a natural Power to yield pfect Obed. to the moral Law? —The new Div<sup>y</sup> Gentlemen assert the Affirmative. I determined it in the Negative.

There is a vigorous exertion of the En<sup>y</sup> every way at the opening of this Campaign. They have fallen upon the interior Wilderness frontier this Spring at the Grants near Skenesboro, at Schenactady, and Susquehanna; lately they came out about Hackinsac, & now the 7<sup>th</sup> Inst in force at Elizabeth T<sup>o</sup>, while it is sd they have suc-

ceeded at their principal object Charlestown S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. The 6<sup>th</sup> Inst June arrived at N. York Major Moncrieff with Articles of Capitulation & accounts wherein it is asserted that Gen. Lincoln surrendered Charlest<sup>o</sup> the 12<sup>th</sup> of May.

21. The last Quarter ended 7<sup>th</sup> Inst when the Bills were settled. But the Oratorical Exercises were deferred on account of the Absence of some of the pformers. This day they were exhibited in the Chapel before a brilliant Assembly of Gentlemen & Ladies. We began with an Anthem; then succeeded a Dialogne between Boardman, Burrall, Lankton & Tomlinson; then Gridley made an Oration; and all was closed with an Anthem. At VI<sup>h</sup> P.M. we attended a Lecture when D<sup>r</sup> Bellamy preached at Mr. Edwards Meeting. Various Reports of the public Affairs.—It is generally believed that Charlest<sup>o</sup> is taken, & yet it is also said the Siege is raised & the Army returned to N. York & 60 sail gone up North River to surprize West Point. Gen. Wash. has written a pressing Lett. to the Assembly at Hartford now sitting & also to Mass. & doubtless to the other States, representing his force insufficient to the present Exigencies, &c. &c.

22. I held my Lecture on Eccl. Hist. in the Coll. Chapel. Undergrad. present, Seniors 24, Juniors 24, Soph. 22, Freshmen 40. Total 110. Rather more than usual out of 130. Mr. Dwight has decoyed away *seven* only, & these from the Soph. Class only, tho' his friends intended to have gotten at least 20 from us.<sup>1</sup> By Sir Avery directly from Boston we are informed that they have just about 100 Undergrad. present at Harvard College, while Commons is £45, or 150 Doll. <sup>7</sup>/<sub>8</sub> week.

#### DARK DAY 19 MAY OR YELLOW FRIDAY.

##### GROTON ON MERIMAK.

"On Friday May 19, 1780 at six o'clock in the Morn<sup>g</sup> at Pepperrell the Peals of Thunder were loud & frequent & attended with heavy Rain. At seven o'clock the Rain & Thunder had ceased: but the Sky continued cloudy. Between nine & Ten o'clock the Clouds were observed to thicken and to receive continual Reinforcements from the low lands. Before Ten the Darkness had sensibly increased, till it became difficult to read an Almanack in a Room with two Windows. At *Eleven o'clock* Candles were lighted at Groton, and at half past Eleven the Dark. was so great at the Meetgh., where a Court was then sitt<sup>g</sup> that it was difficult to distinguish Countenances at the smallest Distance, notwithstand<sup>g</sup> the great

<sup>1</sup> This sentence (referring to the Rev. Timothy Dwight's School at Northampton) has been partially erased—probably by the author.



number of Windows usual in such Buildings. At *Twelve the Dark. was greatest* & little Rain fell. In the streets the Appear<sup>a</sup> was like the begin<sup>g</sup> of the Even<sup>g</sup> as Candles were seen burning in all the houses. The Clouds were thinnest at the North, w<sup>e</sup> excluded the Idea of Aur. Borealis. At the NE the Clouds were very thick & so low that Hills could not be seen at the distance of half a mile. Southwesterly hills might be seen clear at the Dist<sup>a</sup> of twenty miles; but the intermediate Space was so shaded that it was impossible to distinguish Woodland from Pasture. At *half past Twelve* the Clouds, having been hitherto detached, began to embody at such an Height that all the Hills became visible, & the Country round exhibited a *most beautiful Verdure*. At *One* the clouds became uniformly spread and it was *not darker than was usual on a cloudy day*. The same weather continued thro' the whole Afternoon, except that *the sun was seen* for a few minutes at *Acton, about three o'clock*. At *Eight* in the Even<sup>g</sup> the Dark. was so great as to render Travell<sup>g</sup> impracticable. Altho' the moon rose nearly full about Nine o'clock (The Moon was eclipsed at VI<sup>h</sup> in Morn<sup>g</sup> of 18<sup>th</sup>), yet it did not give Light eno' to enable a person to distinguish between the Heavens & the Earth.—The Tides did not rise to an unusual Height &c.

A PERIPATETICK (James Winthrop A.M.  
of Harv. Coll.)”

Extr. from Prints.

23. D<sup>r</sup> Tweedy<sup>y</sup> left Philad<sup>a</sup> last Saturday; and informs that the Report, which has been circulating here concern<sup>g</sup> Charlest<sup>o</sup> these three weeks, is true; and that Gen. Lincoln with 2300 Continental Troops besides militia, i. e. Charlest<sup>o</sup> & the whole Garrison surrendered to Gen. Clinton the 12<sup>th</sup> of May; and that Col. Tennant one of Gen. Lincoln's Aids is arrived at Philad<sup>a</sup> and the Acc<sup>o</sup> authentically published by Congress. I have not believed it before. It is a melancholly & humbling Event in Providence. But shall we receive good at the hands of the Ld & not evil? Every other Disaster in this war has turned out for good; may this also. But certainly it is a heavy Disappointment, a Frown in Providence; and should teach us not to put our Trust in an Arm of Flesh, but in the God of our Fathers, the Lord of Hosts. It is said that Gen. Clinton with 4000 Troops has left Carol. & arrived at N. York & sent some ships up to Tapan Bay, where they attempted land<sup>g</sup> but were repulsed. We greatly fear for West Point. The Campaign opens vigorously. May our Bow abide in Strength & our Arms be made strong by the Arms of Jacob's God.

25. Ldsdy. Dr. Dagget being sick, A.M. Mr. Tutor Atwater preached from Mat. — What &c lose his own soul, &c. P.M. I preached from 2 Cor. v, 20, 21. *Potter* of the Sen. Class, & *Chan-*

<sup>1</sup> Probably Joseph Tweedy, from Rhode Island, who was graduated B. A. at the University of Pennsylvania in 1770.

ning of the Jun. Class propounded for Communion. Also Sacrament next Sabbath notified.

26. Promissum Vi extortium non est observandum. Resp. Cogswell. Kezia has about 400 Silkworms, which hatched 26<sup>th</sup> May, and this day one of them began a Cocoon, ætat. 31 Days. They are 3½ Inches long; have arrived at Maturity in good season.

27. Whether future Misery will be eternal? Senior Class. Report that last Saturday 160 Sail of the Enemy went up North River. [Mistake.] Attended a Sacram<sup>t</sup> Lect. at Mr. Mather's preached by Mr. Wales.

D<sup>r</sup> Munson (Æneas) lately returned from Windsor in Vermont. He gave me a piece of Isinglass *five inches long & four wide* consist<sup>g</sup> of 4 or 5 Lamina. It was taken out of a Bed of it in the Township of in New Hampshire belonging to Dartmouth College; where an immense quantity (several Acres) is lately discovered. It can be taken out in pieces of any Magnitude or Thickness. They cut it into squares for Window-Glass, & sell squares 7 by nine Inches for about a Copper a piece, and these will split into three or more Panes and be of sufficient Thickness. D<sup>r</sup> Munson says he saw 50 or sixty houses glazed with this transparent pellucid Glass. It answers well, being almost as clear & much stronger than common Glass. A wonderful Discovery at this time. It is Talc.<sup>1</sup> [Dismissed Fellows<sup>2</sup> & recommended him to Dartmouth Coll. An uncle there.]

28. I attended a Sacramental Lecture at Rev. Mr. Whitt<sup>ys</sup>, Rev. Mr. Trumbull<sup>3</sup> preached. And at V<sup>h</sup> P.M. Professor Strong not being present, I took his Chair & gave a philosophical Lecture in the Chapel, upon the memorable Darkness of May 19<sup>th</sup> 1780, in which I read all the published accounts, with others which I had collected; together with the Acc<sup>o</sup> of that at Detroit 1762. I gave it my Opinion that the Cause of both was the Conflagration of the Woods of an extensive Territory. That in the fall of 1762 by the Indians for hunting Deer; this of last month by the English Settlers in clearing Lands. The Chapel was full & very attentive, altho' I was above an Hour & half in the Lecture.

29. Professor Daggett held a Div<sup>y</sup> Lect. in the Chapel. I was

<sup>1</sup> Not talc, but common mica.

<sup>2</sup> John Fellows, of the Freshman class, who returned to Yale in June, 1782, & was graduated here in 1783.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Benjamin Trumbull (Yale 1759), of North Haven parish.

absent at North Haven, where I heard Mr. Trumbull preach a Sac<sup>t</sup> Lecture. This the third Sac<sup>t</sup> Lect. I have attended this week. May I be prepared for the holy Communion the next Lds day.

July.

1. We are again alarmed with the apprehension that the British Army, which left Elizabeth T<sup>o</sup> friday night 24<sup>th</sup> ult., is designed against Connecticut, & that for this end 4000 Troops & a Fleet are collecting at Huntington on L. Isld. I find the Ideas of the Tories transpire—that Gen. Clinton has never returned to N. York with any Troops from Carolina, but that he is gone into Chespeak to land in the southern parts of Virginia, & so to march inland into N<sup>o</sup> Carolina & there to meet Gen. Ld. Cornwallis; and this to complete the conquest of the 2 Carolinas. While the Army from N. York are to destress & harrass, burn & plunder at the northward—till we shall be willing to treat & give up Independency.

We have 116 Undergraduates present at College at this time. Absent 3 Seniors & a few Freshmen; none of the Sophimores except those who have left us & gone to &c; none of the Juniors. Of the absent Freshmen five have never been here & suppose will never go to any Coll. thro' Difficulty of the Times. So that we have but four Undergraduates absent. Foster is one of those gone to &c. He applied in April & I then promised him a Dismissal, which I accordingly gave to his Brother for him this day.

2. Ldsdy. Professor Daggett preached all day from Gal. ii, i. After sermon he admitted Potter a Senior Sophister & Channing a Jun. Soph. to the profession of Religion & as Members of the College Chh; also read a Certificate from the Rev. Mr. Boardman recommending Selden 1 a Soph. as a Member of the Chh in Middle Haddam, & thereupon he also was admitted a Member of the Coll. Chh. so long as Gd in his Providence shall continue his Residence here. The Communion was administered, there being fifteen of us Communicants present, of w<sup>o</sup> 11 Undergraduates. We have a Contribution only twice a year, the Commun. on the first Sabb<sup>s</sup> in Jany & July. The Senior Tutor received it to day. In the Aft. Sir Barlow was propounded for admission into full communion. We are all day alarmed with the Report of distant Canon. Last year on the first Sabb. in July we had a delightful day in attend<sup>g</sup> the Sacrament of the Lds Supper without Perturbation or Anxiety—little thinking how near was the Destress of the succeed<sup>s</sup> Night & Day, when the



Enemy landed & took the Town. Gd grant this may not be the case again. But now is the season when Kings go forth to War. We have here no abiding habitation no continuing City. It may please Gd. to spare us; but humanly speaking & consider<sup>g</sup> the malice & intemperate unrelent<sup>g</sup> Vengeance of the En<sup>y</sup>, it is rather most probable that the most of the Connect. Seaport Towns, & New Haven & Stanford in particular must be laid in Ashes this Campaign. May we be weaned from earthly Possessions, our beautiful Habitations & College Edifices, & set our Affections upon things above. The good Lord prepare us for his righteous & holy will. Our Enemies are but Instruments—the Hand is God's. I bless Gd there are some considerable religious Appearances among the Scholars, who uphold a religious Meeting. A Senior came to me last Even<sup>g</sup> to converse with me on Soul Concerns, being under deep conviction of Sin.

3. Remissio Peccatorum absque Satisfactione divinis Perfectionibus repugnat. Ely Resp. The Kings Troops have left Elizabeth T<sup>y</sup> & Jersies—and are come out and 4000 Invalids are about Rochelle & Rye. The French Fleet not yet arrived.

4. Whether the Literature of the Antients exceeded that of the moderns? Seniors' Disputation.

This day being the Anniversary of Independence, the same was celebrated here. A number of Patriots dined together at the Coffee House in Town—the Ministers in T<sup>y</sup> & myself dined with them. After Dinner 13 patriotic Toasts were given, about two minutes apart, announced by 13 Discharges of Canon. At the third the Ministers retired.

5. This is the Anniv. of the Taking of the T<sup>y</sup> of New Haven. About 90 Merch<sup>ts</sup> & Gentlemen of Opulence in Phila<sup>d</sup> have formed a Bank & subscribed a fund of £300,000. Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Money Dollars 76 to be paid in Silver & Gold, for the War. A number of patriotic Ladies in Philadel<sup>a</sup> are contributing in a very spirited manner. A noble Example! The Militia have flocked in every way, that Gen. Howe command<sup>g</sup> at West P<sup>t</sup> has sent to stop their com<sup>g</sup> in inform<sup>g</sup> that he has an ample Supply of Men. One Comp<sup>a</sup> of Militia w<sup>c</sup> marched from this T<sup>y</sup> as far as Newtown returned this day. Actions between advanced parties are daily happen<sup>g</sup>. Much is said of an Expedition again into Connecticut. This Afternoon I attended at Mr. Edwards meeting where the Rev. Mr. Trumbull of N<sup>y</sup> Haven preached an anniversary Sermon on occasion of the

Taking this Town by the British Troops last year. Present the Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Whitt<sup>y</sup>, Searl, Hubbard, Bird, Edwards &c. Professor Strong held his Lecture in the Chapel.

. . . . The En<sup>ys</sup> Acc<sup>o</sup>. "At the surrender of the T<sup>o</sup> (Charlest<sup>o</sup>) the following Gen. Officers, Battal. &c. & their Commanders were to the Am<sup>o</sup> of *six Thousd* taken prisoners, 2300 of w<sup>c</sup> are Continentals.

Major Gen. Lincoln, the Rebel Commander in Chief—Brig<sup>r</sup> Generals Scot—Hogan—Woodford—M<sup>c</sup>Intosh—Moultrie—Du Portail chief Engineer.

Col. Beekmans Brigade of Artillery

Col. Simonds Charlst<sup>o</sup> Brigade

Brig. Gen. Scott's Brigade

Brig. Gen. Hogan's Brigade

Brig. Gen. Woodfords Brigade

Laurens Light Infantry

Brig. Gen. M<sup>c</sup>Intosh' Brigade of Country Militia.

Abstract of the Ordnance taken.

|                   |     |         |
|-------------------|-----|---------|
| Guns . . . .      | 21  | } Brass |
| Mortars . . . .   | 9   |         |
| Howitzers . . . . | 1   |         |
| Iron Guns . . . . | 280 |         |

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Fifteen stand of Regimental Colors, 5416 Stand of French Musquets—Effected with the Loss of only seventy six killed, & 189 wounded." Rem. 1. In gen. phps nearly a true account. 2. The Country Militia only one Brigade—this with the Charlest<sup>o</sup> Brig<sup>d</sup> I suppose the only Militia—the other 4 Brigades Continentals. Hence 3. As these but 2300 so prob<sup>y</sup> the Militia but half as many and so Gen. Lincoln's whole Force but 4000. But includ<sup>g</sup> the Inhabitants the capture might be 6000. So when they took Newp<sup>t</sup> there might be 4000—Philad<sup>a</sup> 15,000.

6. I examined and admitted Mr. Lee's Son into College. This Aft. Williams 1 a Senior Soph. delivered in the Chapel a Funeral Oration upon the death of Belden<sup>1</sup> one of the Senior Class. Present Judge Marston of Barnstable, the Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Lee of Salisb<sup>y</sup>, Smith of Sharon &c, a respectable audience. A very sultry Day.—The Therm<sup>o</sup> stationary at 92 several hours.

<sup>1</sup> James, son of Col. Thos. Belden, of Wethersfield, Conn., died on Nov. 29, 1779.

Mr. Tutor Lockwood thought he had a sight or Glimpse of the expected Comet this morning. . . . . [Illusion.]

7. Dismissed Rockwel a Freshman æt. 21, unable to go thro' college and going to live with a Physician—pay<sup>s</sup> £20, Old Way & Board. His Father writing a very respectful Letter on the occasion. Report of Arrival of the French Fleet off Chespeak. This morn<sup>e</sup> too cloudy to see the Comet, if any visible.

8. Hazy thick Air near the Horizon, Comet not seen this Morning. Received a Letter from President Langdon inclosing Judge Dudley's Donation of £100. sterl<sup>d</sup>. for founding an annual theological Lecture in Harvard College A D. 1750.

#### DARKNESS AT BARNSTABLE MAY 19.

Sun not seen that day.—Wind variable—Dined about one without Candles—Darkness not remarkable till after Dinner—but soon after Dinner came on so that a Taylor could not work. About Two P.M. Candles lighted for several hours. As dark or rather darker than half way between sunset & daylightdown. People plant<sup>s</sup> corn could not discern the corn after dropt, & left off plant<sup>s</sup>. Intense darkness began to go off at five & six. Greatest obscurity half after Three P. M. On the Edges of Water round Kettles & Tubs a fine matter like sulphur.

9. Ldsdy. I preached all day. A. M. at Mr. Mathers he being very sick, on Jno iii, 19. P. M. at Mr. Edw<sup>es</sup>, Eph. i, 4. In the Even<sup>g</sup> there was a very great Aurora Borealis. The day had been very hot Therm<sup>°</sup> 82 in morn<sup>e</sup> at X it was 87. Noon 93. Stationary at 93 from noon or before VI: At VII. 88. So for 6 or 7 hours *above ninety*. Wind all day W. light air. At X<sup>a</sup> the Corusc<sup>a</sup> of the Aurora reached within 10° of the Zenith: a sheet of Aur. very red in N. E, the rest white. . . . .

Sundry Scholars on acc<sup>a</sup> of the excessive heat were abroad at I & II<sup>a</sup> at night—and heard a whizzing noise in the Air at N W. They ascended the Tower of the College Steeple & heard it. It seemed as some mighty Rushing or Streaming of Effluvia from Earth to the Clouds. Some judged it the noise of Water at the Paper Mill &c. Others resembled it to the Whiz of Skyrockets—some to distant Vollies of small arms—some to Sound of Brants or Croaking of Frogs &c. It was heard after Sunrise Monday Morn<sup>e</sup>.

10. The Aur<sup>a</sup> last night matter of Speculation this day. Syllog. Disput<sup>a</sup>—Peccatum Adami Posteris suis imputatur. Resp. Fowler.



II. Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>. Whether Civil Estab. of Ecclesiastical Taxes or Revenues for the support of the Clergy, be right?

YALE COLLEGE July 12. 1780.

REVEREND SIR.

Altho' I have not the hon. of a psonal acquaint<sup>a</sup> with President Maddison, yet as the Providence of Gd. has placed us in similar Stations in two Sister Seats of Literature in America, I shd be happy in a fraternal communication, esp<sup>s</sup> in Literary matters. We have been long sensible, that the New Engl<sup>l</sup> Colleges have been beheld by our Southern & Western Brethren with ineffable Contempt. But we hope the time is now come, when all will unite in viewing Things in a more liberal & generous Light. We are rather to glory that an Infant Republic of Letters is to be found in America. The infant Seminaries, Colleges & Universities here, I think, should cultivate a mutual Intercourse & honorable Friendship with one another. Tho' I have never as yet seen this done, yet nothing shall be wanting on my part to establish such an honorable connexion & Harmony.

Should this Idea correspond with yours, you will do me the Honor of a Reply to this Letter: and will be pleased to gratify me with some acc<sup>t</sup> of the College under your care. Will you give me leave, my dear Sir, to ask of you a Summary History of W<sup>m</sup> Mary College—the List of Presidents with the Times of their Accession & Exit—the present Officers of Instruction with the diff. Profess. or Branches of Literature in which they teach—the Number of Undergraduate Students—and some general Idea of the Course of Liberal Education with you: as whether besides teaching the Learned Languages, you carry Young Gentlemen thro' Philosophy, Astron<sup>y</sup>, Ethics, Physics, Law & Div<sup>y</sup>? Dr. Franklin, who was graduated with you 1756, informed me that you did not then proceed to this Extent. I am happy in believ<sup>g</sup>, that the present Revolution in America will necessitate us to collect & embosom the Literature of the Universe: & that with inferior Advantages and more assiduous applic<sup>n</sup>, as many capital Literary Characters may be produced from 100 Students educated in Amer. as the Europ. Colleges. I trust it will be your Ambition & mine, Sir, that this shall be the case in those under our care. The Opulence of your College will enable you immed<sup>t</sup> to equal the Europ. Universities: if like the illustrious House of *Medici*, you collect men, *greatly learned* in every profession, together with a Voluminous Library, & a complete Philosophical Apparatus.

The 4 Undergrad. Classes in this College the begin<sup>g</sup> of this year consisted of 140 Students. Ten Fellows with the Presid. have the Supreme Gov<sup>t</sup> of the College but not the Instruct. & Executive Gov<sup>t</sup>—which is vested in the Pres<sup>t</sup>, two Professors, one of Divinity, another of Philosophy, & three Tutors. I could go on particularis<sup>m</sup> but it may be superfluous as you may have seen Presd<sup>t</sup> Claps printed History of this College. The Learned Degrees of all kinds are conferred here as in the Europ. Universities. With Difficulty we have upheld this Society amidst the Tumults of this present War. A year ago we were by the Descent of the En<sup>y</sup> broken up in the midst of a Term. At present we are assembled here phaps 120 Students or a full College. G<sup>d</sup> only knows whether we shall not again be put to flight. *Arma cedant Togæ* was a

Maxim of the Roman Senate : but this is reversed with a Toga cedat Armis in the present unnatural War : unless Congress should assume the toga.

By a Lett. w<sup>e</sup> I this week rec<sup>d</sup> from the Rev. Presid<sup>t</sup> Langdon of Harv. Coll. I find the Destress of the Times chiefly on acc<sup>o</sup> of Depreci<sup>a</sup> of Money have rendered it difficult to uphold that Seat of Learning also. They have about 120 Students. But there will be no pub. Commenc<sup>t</sup> either there or here this year. Dartmouth College has about 30 Undergraduates. You are best acquainted with those in Jersey & Pensylvania. [Jersey has 16, Pensylv<sup>a</sup> 20, Rh. Isl<sup>d</sup> 4.]

I shall send this to the care of Mr. Sherman, at Philad<sup>a</sup>, Member of Congress. Should you be so obliging as to forward an answer to one of the Connecticut Members of Congress at Philad<sup>a</sup>. I should hope to receive it safely. I beg your Acceptance of the inclosed Oration, asking your great Candor in its perusal, as I am altogether unable to write Latin with Correctness and Elegance. In this as well as in many other respects being unfit for my present Situation.—I sh<sup>ld</sup> be glad to receive any of y<sup>r</sup> own Compositions & any printed Theses or Academic Exercises. May the Gd. of Heaven succeed your Endeav<sup>rs</sup> to educate & form the youth under y<sup>r</sup> Instruct. for Usefulness & Honor.

Wishg. you every Bless<sup>s</sup> I am

Rev<sup>d</sup> Sir

Y<sup>r</sup> unknown hum. serv<sup>t</sup>

Rev. Mr. Maddison

EZRA STILES.

President of W<sup>m</sup> & Mary College, Williamsburg, Virginia.

Sent by Dr Beardsley 12 July, to the care of the  
Hon. Mr. Sherman Conn. Delegate in Congress.

[Aug. 27, 1780. Rec<sup>d</sup> an Answer dated Aug. 1, 1780.

The following is President Madison's Letter :

REV<sup>d</sup> SIR.

I rejoice that you have opened y<sup>e</sup> way for a Correspondence with a Gentleman of your Merit. But I have Reason to believe y<sup>e</sup> Advantage will be altogether on my side, for I am far from entertaining y<sup>e</sup> Opinion of the State of Literature in your Colleges, and your Part of y<sup>e</sup> World, w<sup>e</sup> you suggest, and even if I had, y<sup>e</sup> learned Oration with w<sup>e</sup> you have been pleased to honour me, w<sup>d</sup> not have left a Trace behind of such illiberal Ideas. Believe me, Sir, we behold you with far other Sentiments, and I am persuaded, that y<sup>e</sup> People of y<sup>e</sup> Eastern States will excell us as much in Science, as they have in Legislation. But I wish ardently with you that y<sup>e</sup> Republic of Letters could gain Strength from y<sup>e</sup> Union of its Members by frequent Communication with each other. The Discoveries, or y<sup>e</sup> Productions of one Part, w<sup>d</sup> not only then be more readily communicated to y<sup>e</sup> other, but w<sup>d</sup> excite a spirit of Industry in Science, and, no Doubt, y<sup>e</sup> more it was diffused, y<sup>e</sup> greater must be y<sup>e</sup> Accessions it w<sup>d</sup> receive. The philosophical Society established in Philadelphia and w<sup>e</sup> has already merited y<sup>e</sup> Applause of y<sup>e</sup> literary world, I hope will concenter those Discoveries & Observations so that Europe shall behold America not only as a new Star in y<sup>e</sup> political Horizon, but in y<sup>e</sup> literary also. But surely it belongs to our Colleges & Universities to lay y<sup>e</sup> Foundation from w<sup>e</sup> y<sup>e</sup> future glory of America shall arise. If y<sup>e</sup> rising Generations be thereby rendered wise & good,

if America can behold her Sons encreasing in Knowledge and in Virtue, then indeed may we, Sir. at least, as far as respects ourselves, rejoice in having rendered y<sup>e</sup> most solid advantages to our Country.

It is with Pleasure I communicate to you a short sketch of our University, because I hope to derive Advantage from a Comparison of it with yours.

The first Plan of our College was imperfect. It consisted of a President, whose only Business was to superintend—a Professor of Humanity—of Ethics—of Math. & Nat. Phil.—of y<sup>e</sup> Oriental Languages and—of Divinity—and a Master for y<sup>e</sup> Indians, or y<sup>e</sup> Brafferton School.<sup>1</sup> Under this Form it continued from y<sup>e</sup> year 1729 until y<sup>e</sup> Beginning of y<sup>e</sup> y<sup>r</sup> 1780. The executive Part was lodged in y<sup>e</sup> Society, y<sup>e</sup> legislative in its Visitors or Governors.—In this State, it laboured under many Inconveniences, (tho' often possessing men of real abilities), w<sup>c</sup> rendered it less extensively useful, than an Institution, so liberally endowed, might have been.

Since y<sup>e</sup> Revolution, its former Resources have been almost annihilated. From a Revenue of 5 or 6000*l* St<sup>s</sup> a year, w<sup>c</sup> arose principally from Duties on Articles of Commerce, it now depends for its support upon y<sup>e</sup> Rent of 22000 acres of Land, w<sup>c</sup> in Time will become considerable, but at present does not afford more than 500*l* sterl<sup>s</sup>— There is indeed also an Income from Surveys, but not very considerable.—But even reduced as we are in our Resources, a Change has taken Place, w<sup>c</sup> I flatter myself, will render this Seminary infinitely more beneficial.

The Society at present consists of a President,—who is always to be one of the Professors, and is now Prof. of Math. & Nat. Phil.<sup>s</sup> 2. of Law & Police. 3. of Chymistry & Medicine. 4. of Ethics & y<sup>e</sup> Belles Lettres. 5. of Modern Languages.—The internal Management is vested in y<sup>e</sup> Society. The Legislative as formerly, tho' a change is expected in this Part. The Prof<sup>t</sup> of Humanity has been abolished, and proper Schools for y<sup>e</sup> antient Languages to be established in various parts of y<sup>e</sup> Country; from whence, when properly qualified, y<sup>e</sup> Students are to be sent to y<sup>e</sup> University. The Professorship of Divinity is also abolished. It was formerly instituted for y<sup>e</sup> Purpose of y<sup>e</sup> Church of England, w<sup>c</sup> was here established, but it is now thought that Establishments in Fav<sup>r</sup> of any particular Sect are incompatible with y<sup>e</sup> Freedom of a Republic, and therefore, y<sup>e</sup> Professorship is entirely dropped.

The Doors of y<sup>e</sup> University are open to all, nor is even a knowledge in y<sup>e</sup> Ant. Languages a previous Requisite for Entrance. The Students have y<sup>e</sup> Liberty of attending whom they please, and in what order they please, or all y<sup>e</sup> diff<sup>t</sup> Lectures in a Term if they think proper.—The Lectures continue from October until April, & from May until August.—We hope to have y<sup>e</sup> N<sup>o</sup> of Professors augmented as soon as y<sup>e</sup> Times will admit, & ye Business of each more simplified.

The public Exercises are 1<sup>st</sup>, weekly, The whole University assemble in a convenient apartment, one of y<sup>e</sup> Society presiding. Questions are previously prepared and then debated. 2. Monthly, for y<sup>e</sup> students in Law. And annually when subjects are given to deliver Orations upon, which, if deserving, are printed.

<sup>1</sup> Named from a fund given by Hon. Robert Boyle for the education of Indian children, and chargeable on the manor of Brafferton, Yorkshire.



The Time of taking Degrees were formerly y<sup>e</sup> same as in Cambridge, but now depends upon y<sup>e</sup> Qualifications of y<sup>e</sup> candidate.—He has a certain course pointed out for his first Degree, and also for y<sup>e</sup> rest. When Master of either, y<sup>e</sup> Degree is conferred.

The number of Students is more considerable than heretofore and encreases daily.

We have a well chosen Apparatus w<sup>h</sup> cost 500 £ st<sup>s</sup> made by y<sup>e</sup> best Hands in London.—Our Library may be considered as a good foundation to improve upon. Before this unnatural War, we had formed a Plan of importing annually some of y<sup>e</sup> best modern Books, and among others y<sup>e</sup> Publications of ye different Philosophical Societies in Europe, w<sup>h</sup> we shall resume whenever it is practicable.

The Presidents have succeeded in y<sup>e</sup> following order :

|                                 |      |
|---------------------------------|------|
| Rev. James Blair . . . .        | 1729 |
| William Dawson . . . .          | 1743 |
| W <sup>m</sup> Stith . . . .    | 1752 |
| Tho <sup>s</sup> Dawson . . . . | 1755 |
| W <sup>m</sup> Yates . . . .    | 1761 |
| James Horrocks . . . .          | 1764 |
| John Camm . . . .               | 1771 |
| James Madison . . . .           | 1777 |

I have nothing that I think worthy of your Attention by me at present. We have as yet published no Exercises under y<sup>e</sup> new Establishment, tho' we have some young men of real Genius, who promise to become y<sup>e</sup> Ornaments of their Country. Whenever we do, I will take y<sup>e</sup> Liberty of transmitting them to you.

As to myself, I have some Thoughts of publishing a Course of Lectures upon that Part of Natural History w<sup>c</sup> relates to Quadrupeds, some Time y<sup>e</sup> ensuing Winter or Spring.—If I sh<sup>d</sup>, I will send them to you, tho' I fear they will be far from deserving your Esteem.

Sh<sup>d</sup> you think it worth while to continue a Correspondence, which you have so obligingly commenced,—I sh<sup>d</sup> be glad to have some Acc<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Cold y<sup>e</sup> last Winter at your Residence. As it was probably y<sup>e</sup> severest ever experienced, since y<sup>e</sup> settlement of America—and also your usual Summer Heat, together with y<sup>e</sup> Quantity of Rain that falls annually and y<sup>e</sup> most prevailing Winds. Also your Latitude and Longitude—together with y<sup>e</sup> Variation of y<sup>e</sup> Needle.—Facts of this kind will serve to throw great Light upon y<sup>e</sup> Natural History of America.

Our Lat. here is 37° 15' 55" nearly.

Our Longitude may be seen from y<sup>e</sup> follow<sup>g</sup> Observations this Summer.

| May 4 <sup>th</sup>  | Time at Paris. | West of Paris. |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
|                      | H ' "          | H ' "          |
|                      | 2. 39. 45      |                |
| Time here            | 9. 23. 20      | 5. 16. 25      |
| May 20.              | 58. 10         | West of Paris  |
| Time here            | 7. 42. 00      | 5. 16. 10.     |
| May 30 <sup>th</sup> | 2. 41. 0       |                |
| Time here            | 9. 24. 51      | 5. 16. 9       |

The Observations were made with a Reflector by Short, magnifying 200—Time obtained by=Altitudes. We have an excellent Time Keeper.

I think y<sup>e</sup> last mentioned Observation points out y<sup>e</sup> Longitude with much Truth, as we had two good Telescopes in use at y<sup>e</sup> same Time, & not more than 2" Diff. was observed. The Time also was accurately had y<sup>e</sup> day before.

I send you a short acc<sup>t</sup> of y<sup>e</sup> Therm. last Winter.

| Jan.            | ½ p. 7 A.M.    | Noon. | 3 P.M. | Winds. |
|-----------------|----------------|-------|--------|--------|
| 7 <sup>th</sup> | 15             | 18    | 20     | N.W.   |
| 8               | 14             | 16    | 18     | N.W.   |
| 9               | 16             | 20    | 23     | Wb.N.  |
| 10              | 27             | 29    | 31     | W.     |
| 11              | 33             | 34    | 34     | S.W.   |
| 12              | 26             | 22    | 16     | W.     |
| 13              | 6 <sup>1</sup> | 16    | 17     | N.W.   |
| 14              | 10             | 16    | 17     | W.     |
| 15              | 14             | 18    | 29     | W.     |
| 16              | 22             | 28    | 38     | S.W.   |

<sup>1</sup> Barometer 29. 9. 2.

Our greatest Heat this Summer was the 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> July, when at 4 in the afternoon the Therm. was 92 each day. Wind S.W. The Variation here is 50' West.—Rain 42 Inches in y<sup>e</sup> year.

I am Sir with great Respect,

Your Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

August 1<sup>st</sup> 1780

J. MADISON.]

W<sup>m</sup> & Mary Coll.

12. Professor Strong held his Phil. Lect.—Astronomy.

13. I gave my Lect. upon Eccl. Hist<sup>y</sup>. This day we have here certain News of the Arrival of the French Fleet at Newport Rhd. Isld, last Monday or Tuesday.

14. Yesterday I admitted Willard into the Sophomore Class. This day I attended a Recitation with the Senior Class as usual, & they finished the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vol. of Locke on Hum. Understanding; at V<sup>h</sup> I attended the Sophomores Recit<sup>a</sup> in Cic. de Oratore, & exhibited to them a Lecture upon the Solar System in the Library, and upon the Cometary exhibit<sup>a</sup> in a movement the parabolic Trajectory of the Comet 1759. In the Even<sup>g</sup> after prayers I went on in a Dissert<sup>a</sup> upon the Cyclopædia, & discoursed upon *Optics & Astronomy* in the Chapel for an hour. Thus my whole day has been filled up with laborious Attention. Besides, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Avery of Bennington this day waited upon me for my Opin. & Advice on a Scheme for erecting an Academy at Bennington, to become ultimately a College for Vermont. He has been into Jersey to get the Opin. of Presid<sup>t</sup> Witherspoon &c. And fortified with the public Advice to

negotiate with Mr. Dwight to become the Head of it. This is a Plan of the New Div<sup>y</sup> Connexion.<sup>1</sup> They have had it in Contempl<sup>a</sup> to set up a New Div<sup>y</sup> College in Stockbridge or Berk. County. But the want of money! Now there is a great Appropri<sup>s</sup> of Lands in Vermont, one Right in every Township designed for a State College. It is the Aim of these Gentlemen to get the Lead & finally have these Lands applied to their College. Had they proposed a place near the center of Vt. it would have taken. They applied to the Assembly of Verm<sup>t</sup> to encourage it, but they declined doing any Thing for it at Bennington. However an Effort is mak<sup>g</sup>, and tho' the Assembly don't forward it, it is however determ<sup>d</sup> on strength of Recommend<sup>s</sup> of Ministers &c to set it up for Mr. Dwight. D<sup>r</sup> With. wisely advised only set up a good Grammar School. I told M<sup>r</sup> Avery a Coll. would certainly be set up in Verm<sup>t</sup> but I did not believe they would consent to have it at Bennington.

DARKNESS 19<sup>th</sup> MAY. AT PORTSMOUTH, PISCATAQUA.

Lett. from Rev. Mr. Buckminster to Mr. Tutor Atwater.

"MY DEAR SIR,

Agreeably to y<sup>r</sup> desire I write y<sup>r</sup> the various Observations I have been able to collect upon the curious Phenomenon of the 19<sup>th</sup> of May in the different Towns thro' w<sup>ch</sup> I have passed. I was at *Norwich* & communicated to y<sup>r</sup> the Observ<sup>s</sup> I then made. The peculiar Darkness commenced about Ten o'clock, its Height a little before Twelve, & at two P.M. it was but little if anything diff. fr. a common cloudy day. The *Event* was *Darkness in the Abstract*. As I journeyed from *Norwich* to *Providence* I heard much of the Darkness from every person I saw.—At *Providence* the Darkness was greater than at *Norwich* & about three Qu<sup>rs</sup> of an hour later in the day.

At *Boston* & *Cambridge* the Deg. of Dark. was nearly the same as at *Providence*. There was this difference at the two last places—there was a small Interval of Light about one o'clock & the *greatest Dark. was at Twelve & Two*.—At *Salem* the Deg. of Dark. & the Interval was similar to the 2 last named places.

At *Newburyport* the *Dark. was greatest*. That seems to have been the *Center of the Darkness!* And by acc<sup>t</sup> of Gent. of Observ<sup>s</sup> to have differed very little from the *Darkness of a common Starlight Night*. The Time of day could not be discovered by a china-faced watch, the Cows came home from Pasture, & wild & tame fowls went to Roost. The Time of greatest Darkness was about *half after one*. At *Portsm<sup>th</sup>* the Dark. was not quite so intense as at *Newb<sup>ry</sup>*. It came on about Eleven o'clock, at Two was its Height, and about six P. M.

<sup>1</sup> David Avery (Yale 1769), now pastor in Bennington, and his classmate Timothy Dwight, now of Northampton, Mass., were adherents of the "New Divinity," so-called. An Academy was incorporated in Bennington in November, 1780, but nothing further resulted from this movement.



it returned again, & continued dark thro' the Even<sup>g</sup>. I have heard of its extend<sup>s</sup> as far as Falm<sup>o</sup> Casco Bay. The opin. of Gent. are various respect<sup>s</sup> the Cause of this phænom. Some suppose a Comet, others a Meteor, but most agree in a peculiar disposition of the Clouds & Smoke with w<sup>e</sup> the whole Atmosphere was filled.—I seem rather to acquiesce in the last opinion. We have traced a chain of Fires from Amarascoggin River to Woodstock in Connecticut. The Wind back in the Country was observed to be westerly, but on the Sea Coast strong from the East. These opposite winds bro't the smoke from the country and the vapor from the sea & a peculiar disposition of the Clouds in one Region. I think it not irrational or unphilosophical to suppose that the Vap<sup>r</sup> fr. the sea & the smoke & vap<sup>r</sup> fr. the Country might make three *diff. Strata of clouds* &c. The Reflex. of Light is from the surfaces of bodies so that these separate Clouds must have obstructed the Light much more than the same Quant<sup>y</sup> of Vap<sup>r</sup> in one continued Cloud. The smoke I suppose<sup>1</sup> the lower Strata, & you are sensible (fr. having often seen the sun thro' a column of smoke) that this Vapor transmits principally the red Rays of the sun, fr. w<sup>e</sup> I acc<sup>o</sup> for the appearance of the Clouds on that Day. That the smoke was lowest I further collect fr. the peculiar smell of the air & fr. the peculiar Quality of the Rain that fell in some places. I might have added to the *diff. Strata of y<sup>e</sup> Clouds* their nearness to the Earth as occasioning the Darkness. For I suppose the Quant<sup>y</sup> of Vap<sup>r</sup> within a mile of the Earth will obscure the Light of the Sun, much more than the same Quant<sup>y</sup> of Vap<sup>r</sup> at two Miles Distance, whether in the inverse simple Ratio or of y<sup>e</sup> sq<sup>rs</sup> I know not.

Portsm<sup>o</sup> June 3. 1780.

JOSEPH BUCKMINSTER."

15. [The Seniors finished President Claps system of Moral Phil.] We have 113 Undergrad. present; only 11 absent. The Pruritus Præsidentendi &c has given birth to sundry Buddings of Academies upon one motive & Pretence & another—and several others are in cogitation & Embrio.

|                      |   |   |   |                                                      |
|----------------------|---|---|---|------------------------------------------------------|
| Pohkeepsy            | . | . | . | Rev. Chauncy Graham                                  |
| Newark               | . | . | . | Burnt down 1779                                      |
| 1778 Claverack       | . | . | . | Grammar                                              |
| 1779 Morristown      | . | . | . | Mr. Periam [died 1780]                               |
| 1780 Hanover, Jersey | . | . | . | Rev. Mr. Bradford to educate<br>illiterate Ministers |
| N. London, Delaware  | . | . | . | Grammar                                              |
| 1779 North Hampton   | . | . | . | Mr. Dwight—male & female.                            |
| 1779 N H & Ripton    | . | . | . | Mr. Woodbridge—female.                               |
| Bennington           | . | . | . | in contemplation.                                    |

16. Ldsdy. At Durham I preached all day for Mr. Goodrich. A.M. Eph. 1, 6, 7. P.M. Tit. ii, 11-13.

<sup>1</sup> One word wanting.

17. Return<sup>s</sup> with Mr. Chauncy, we were thrown out of the Chair in Pauge.<sup>1</sup> I was much hurt. Put out my Elbow.

18. Stratagemata in Bello sunt licita. Resp. Potter. I took Leave & bid Farewell to the Sen. Class. This Afternoon my Arm set.

19. Public Examin<sup>s</sup> of the Candidates for the first degree. Before Dinner they were presented to me in the Library. I dined in the Hall. After Dinner the Orations & academic Exercises<sup>2</sup> were exhibited in the Chapel before a splendid Assembly of Gentlemen and Ladies. Began at III 45' P.M. Ended VII 38', with intermission of half an Hour. Very long ! entertaining ! . . . . .

20. No Lecture. I appointed Baldwin & Perkins Monitors. And ordered the young Seniors to come forward into the Seniors seats, leav<sup>s</sup> only room eno<sup>1</sup> for the few resid<sup>s</sup> Candidates. I also committed to them the care of the Freshmen.

21. I appointed the Orators & Dialogists for the general Examin<sup>s</sup> of the Classes at end of present Qu<sup>r</sup> as follows.

| Juniors.           |         | Soph.                         |         |
|--------------------|---------|-------------------------------|---------|
| Atwater—Lat. Orat. |         | Robins—Lat. Orat <sup>r</sup> |         |
| Breed—Eng. Orat.   |         | Noyes—Eng. Orat <sup>r</sup>  |         |
| Hinckly            | } Dial. | Crocker                       | } Dial. |
| Isaacks            |         | Lovet                         |         |
| Wooster Sec        |         | King                          |         |
| Freshmen.          |         |                               |         |
| Holmes—Lat. Orat.  |         |                               |         |
| Hall —Eng. Orat.   |         |                               |         |
| Penfield )         |         |                               |         |
| Smith }            |         | Dialogists.                   |         |
| Stiles             |         |                               |         |

22. Examined two who offered for admission for Commenc<sup>s</sup> and admitted Deodate Wildman of Southbury.

23. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached for good M<sup>r</sup> Mather very sick. Tit ii. 11, 13. Attended Chapel P.M. Professor preached Luke xvi. 31. Reading Minutius Fælix<sup>3</sup> Dialogue in Defence of Xty.

24. I began to teach Hebrew to the Freshmen Class. I have refused two genteel Bribes within a Week.

25. Rev. Jn Reed grad. at Yale Coll. 1772 was lately ordained

<sup>1</sup> Pauge, the Indian name of a locality in the northern part of North Branford.

<sup>2</sup> A Poem, entitled The Genius of America, by Samuel Bostwick, delivered on this occasion, is preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers.

Colleague with Rev<sup>d</sup> Dan<sup>l</sup> Perkins of Bridgwater. Reading Minutius Fœlix. . . . .

26. Attended Prof. Strong's Lect. on Occult<sup>a</sup> of fixt Stars by the Moon. Rev. Mr. Rogers a Bapt. Min<sup>r</sup> Chaplain here : left G. Washington's Camp about 12 M. west of N<sup>o</sup> River last Saturday. Says G. Wash. has with him five Brig<sup>a</sup> 3 Pensy. 1 Hamp. 1 Artill<sup>y</sup> not above 5000 or 4800 Effective, but in fine Spirits. G. How on North River a larger Corps ; he judges Wash. had about one Quarter of the whole Amer. Army, w<sup>c</sup> he estimates about 20 Thous<sup>d</sup> at this Time, exclusive French at Rh Isld. Last friday G. Wayne made an unsuccessful Attack on Post of En<sup>y</sup> opposite F<sup>t</sup> Washington—We lost 13 killed & 40 wounded.

Philad<sup>a</sup> College has about twenty Undergraduates, & Jersey Coll. 16 besides each a Grammar school of 60 or 70.

On the 11<sup>th</sup> July Ins<sup>t</sup> arrived at Newport Rh. Isld. a Fleet from France of Men o' War & Transports consisting of *fourty four Sail*, having on board 6000 Troops. The Fleet is commanded by his Excellency Monseieur le Chevalier de Ternay, & the Troops by his Excell<sup>y</sup> Mons. le Comte de Rochambeau. In conseq. of w<sup>c</sup> the Town (Newp<sup>t</sup>) was beautifully illuminated on Wedn<sup>y</sup> Even<sup>g</sup> (July 12) & 13 grand Rockets were fired in the Front of the Statehouse. Wedn<sup>y</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> Gen. Heath arrived at Newport. Thirty three Inhab. of Rh. Isld. lately proscribed by Gen. Assembly ; of w<sup>c</sup> 29 Newport Tory Refugees.

27. I gave my Lect. Eccl. Hist., Reform<sup>a</sup> in Sweden & Denmark. A British Fleet was at anchore off Rh. Isld. last Ldsdy, said to be Adm. Graves with 16 Ships of War. . . . .

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Goodrich observed the Aurora Bor. Ldsdy Even<sup>g</sup>. July 9<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> at Durham. . . . .

28. This Afternoon fell a fine & very plentiful Shower of Rain—a most welcome Blessing consid<sup>g</sup> the very severe Drought threatn<sup>g</sup> the Ind. Corn, much of w<sup>c</sup> is irrecoverable. Divine Provid. has given us a plentiful Harvest of English Grain :—but the Grass is extremely cut off, & the fruits of the Earth languish. Yesterday afternoon the Ministers of the Town were conferring upon a Season of Prayer for the Drought. The Loving-kindness of G<sup>d</sup> prevents us.

This Evening we beheld a very singular Aurora; it began in the East not North. . . . .

29. This day at III<sup>h</sup> P.M. I set up a Chamber Theological Lecture for graduates & undergraduates ; intending to hold it weekly



Saturday afternoons. I gave a subject for them to write upon, & after their reading their Compositions I discourse or deliver a Dissertation<sup>a</sup> upon the subject. The Quest. for this day was—the Evidence & Proofs of the Being of a GOD. The next to be on the Divinity of our Ld. Jesus Christ.

This Morn<sup>e</sup> Express from westw<sup>d</sup> advis<sup>e</sup> a Fleet of 150 Sail at Huntington & Embark<sup>d</sup> of 8000—supposed for Newport.

30. Ldsdy. Attended in Chapel, the Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> preached A.M. Rom. vi, 21. P.M. — and notified the Sacrament. I finished reading Minutius Fœlix, and began read<sup>e</sup> Smith de Græcæ Ecclesiæ hodierno Statu. Also read the Lives of Bullinger & Ursinus in Melchior Adam's Biography.

31. British Fleet 150 Sail forming at Huntington. Letters from Mr. Avery in Newport of 17<sup>th</sup> & 23<sup>d</sup> Inst. giving acc<sup>o</sup> of the French Fleet arriv<sup>e</sup> there 11<sup>th</sup> Inst. consist<sup>e</sup> of Eight Ships fr. 84 to 64 Guns & 37 Frigates & Transports, with 5700 Troops. Being the first Div. of the Force sent by our Allies to our Assistance, the whole of w<sup>h</sup> to be 12 Sail of the Line & 75 Frigates and Transports & 10,000 Troops. The Bell rang at Newp<sup>t</sup> till after Midnight & the Even<sup>g</sup> of 12<sup>th</sup> Newp<sup>t</sup> illuminated, the Whigs put 13 Lights in the Windows the Tories or doubtfuls 4 or 6. The Quakers did not chuse their Lights shd shine before men, & their Windows were broken—a fine subject for Friends Meeting of Sufferings. On 21<sup>st</sup> Inst. British Fleet of 18 Sail anchored off SE of Block Isld as a fleet of observation, *nine of them* large ships, whereas the french have but eight large Ships inclusive of a Hosp. Ship converted &c. Precaution taken to send out from Boston & every way to notify the second Div., in which are expected five Ships of the Line & 4000 Troops. If these ships shd joyn the french naval force will become sup. to the British.

### August.

1. Of 97 Tot. 3 remain<sup>e</sup> Classes 89 are in Town, so only 7 absent. One yesterday from Horsneck advises the Brit. Fleet at Huntington hoisted sail yest<sup>r</sup> morn<sup>e</sup> & all went down to N. York. What will be their next movement? All the Militia of the State of Rh. Isld. are ordered for Newport, & 4000 Mass. Cont. Troops. It is said 6000 Militia are already assembled at Newp<sup>t</sup> expect<sup>e</sup> the Huntington fleet. Probably the En<sup>y</sup> hav<sup>e</sup> notice of this have suspended a while their Newp<sup>t</sup> Expedition.

The Drought continues severely, on acc<sup>o</sup> of w<sup>c</sup> & our dangerous Situation as exposed to the Descent of the En<sup>v</sup> & Conflagration, the Ministers in Town set apart a season for Prayer & supplic<sup>n</sup> to God at IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. I preached 1 Kings viii, 35, 36. A promiscuous serious assembly of all Societies convened at Rev. Mr. Whitt<sup>vs</sup> Meetinghouse. I preached at the public Desire. May the Gd. of our Fathers hear our Supplications.

2. Professor Strong deliv<sup>d</sup> his Lect. I was absent. G. Washington came over to the East Side of Hudsons River Monday last & his corps are following on & all the northern troops about West P<sup>t</sup> are march<sup>g</sup> down to form Head Qu<sup>rs</sup> at Whiteplains.

Bearings taken this day by the College Compass.<sup>1</sup>  
From Ferry near Leavenworth's house.

|                                               |           |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| 5 M. Pt.                                      | . . . . . | S. 2°. 40' E. |
| Black Rock Fort                               | . . . . . | S. 3. 15 E.   |
| Ferry wharf East side                         | . . . . . | S. 49. 50 E.  |
| The Pier.                                     | . . . . . | S. 25. 30 W.  |
| Eastmost Tree Westside                        | . . . . . | S. 26. — W.   |
| Pest House                                    | . . . . . | S. 41. 55 W.  |
| End Long Wharf                                | . . . . . | S. 74. 30 W.  |
| College Steeple                               | . . . . . | N. 59. 15 W.  |
| Mr. Whitt <sup>vs</sup> D <sup>o</sup> Center | . . . . . | N. 54. 0 W.   |

Station End Long Wharf, obs. by Sir Cooke Aug. 3.

|                                |           |              |
|--------------------------------|-----------|--------------|
| Pier                           | . . . . . | S. 34° 20 E. |
| Black rock fort.               | . . . . . | S. 17. 15 E. |
| 5 M. pt.                       | . . . . . | S. 9. 30 E.  |
| Ferry Wharf on East side       | . . . . . | S. 77. 5 E.  |
| Station by ferry Wharf         | . . . . . | N. 77. 15 E. |
| Range Long Wharf               | . . . . . | S. 33. 30 E. |
| Tree on W. side p <sup>t</sup> | . . . . . | S. 19. 45 W  |

Station W. side harbor below Musquito fort and near west from the Pier.

|                        |           |               |
|------------------------|-----------|---------------|
| Pier                   | . . . . . | E. 2°. 25' S. |
| Station at Ferry house | . . . . . | N. 63. 20 E.  |
| Long Wharf             | . . . . . | N. 49. 20 E.  |
| Fort black rock        | . . . . . | S. 34. 20 E.  |
| 5 M. p <sup>t</sup>    | . . . . . | S. 19°. E.    |
| Beacon hill            | . . . . . | S. 65, 0 E.   |

<sup>1</sup> Of the places named below, Five Mile Point is the Light House Point; Black Rock Fort, Fort Hale; Ferry Wharf, near Tomlinson's Bridge; the Pier, a square pier in the harbor; the Pest House, on Oyster Point.

3. I attended Mr. Edwards sacramental Lecture, preached by the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williston. Afterwards at V<sup>h</sup> P.M. I delivered my Lecture on Eccl. Hist<sup>y</sup> of Reform<sup>a</sup> in Poland.—Report that the two fleets have sailed from Rh. Isld. Saw 2 Gent. from Newp<sup>t</sup>—amazing flocking of Militia there. Rain last Night.

4. Militia return<sup>g</sup> from Rh. Isld. I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Buckminster dated Portsm<sup>o</sup> 10 July, in which he speaks of the Darkness or noxious Air of 19<sup>th</sup> May, “proving fatal to Birds especially in Dover County, great numbers of which *died* after flying into Houses for shelter & appear<sup>g</sup> in great distress. This argues a degree of Infection in the Air peculiar to that place.”—“Heaven is favoring us with a most delightful Season; Vegetation never was more rapid. *Wheat & Corn* have *grown* by Measure *five Inches* in *twenty four hours*. We enjoy great Health.”

By inspecting the Monitors Bill for the 3 remaining Classes now that the young Sirs are gone, I find the Total exclusive of the Northampton Refugees &c is 97 of which 89 are present.

|                   |           |          |           |
|-------------------|-----------|----------|-----------|
| Juniors als. Sen. | . . . . . | 27       | 2 absent. |
| Soph.             | . . . . . | 24       | 3         |
| Fresh.            | . . . . . | 46       | 3         |
|                   |           | <hr/> 97 | <hr/> 8   |

5. The Fleet still off Block Isld 3 days ago. . . . .

The latter end July, the Philad<sup>a</sup> Ladies had contributed for the Soldiers of the American Army Three hundred Thous<sup>d</sup> 766 Dollars. A noble Example!

At IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. I held another Theological Lecture in the Library with a Class collected from the Graduates and Undergraduates to the freshmen inclusive. One of the Graduates present was a licensed Candidate & Preacher. The Subject was the Trinity & particularly the Div<sup>y</sup> of our L<sup>d</sup> J. C. Four of them delivered written Dissertations. At Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers, I expounded the Savoy Confession of Faith in the Chapel as usual every Saturday Evening.

6. Ldsdy. I attended at Chapel; the professor of Div<sup>y</sup> preached all day, Gal. ii, 19, 20. In the Forenoon Sir Barlow was admitted to the public profession of Religion and into full communion—also Willard a Sophomore was received on Recommend<sup>a</sup> from the 1st Chh. in Stafford. . . . . Excessive hot. Fah. Th. at VIII mane 85. X, 90. Noon 98 $\frac{1}{4}$ . I, 96. III, 95. IV, 90. V, 85. VI, 82. VII, 78. IX, 75.



7. Received Letters from Rh. Isld. Advice from G. Wash. arrived at Newp<sup>t</sup> 26 July notify<sup>s</sup> that the Huntington fleet with 10 Thousd British was destined for Rh. Isld. This greatly affected the Inhab. & produced a break<sup>s</sup> up again of my Chh. and Mr. Avery who had been preach<sup>s</sup> to them left them 28<sup>th</sup>. The Militia flocked in from every Qu.—the whole Militia from Rh. Isld. State rushed to Arms. About six or Ten Thousd<sup>d</sup> assembled. But in a few days were dismissed. Therm<sup>o</sup> 87.

8. Writing Letters to Hon. Mr. Sherman at Congress, to President Langdon, Professor Wigglesworth & Mr. Gannet at Harv. College. The Hon. Titus Hosmer died at Middletown last friday—a very excellent Character! æt. 44.

9. Professor Strong exhibited his philosophical Lecture, upon the Occultation of the Stars by the Moon. A Rivington N. Y. print of last friday advises that the Brit. fleet in the W. Indies has taken 25 Transports with Spanish Troops—and that the Brit. Troops are ravaging S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, 100 miles round about Charlest<sup>o</sup>, hav<sup>s</sup> lately taken a Corps of our Troops at Ninety six. They seem to prevail in Car<sup>o</sup> so far— They are not sufficiently roused in that part of the United States. A Charlest<sup>o</sup> print speaks of their being 15 to 18 Thousd men able to bear arms in the State of S<sup>o</sup> Carolina—this implies 60 th. souls Whites; I had tho't them not so many—a few years since they were but 30,000 Souls Whites; doubtless augmented by accessions.

The same print says all the Militia found in Charlestown at the Surrend<sup>y</sup>, being town & country Militia, did not exceed *fifteen hundred*. G. Lincoln & his corps of Contin. about 2,400 inclusive Officers; so Total Force in T<sup>o</sup> about *four thousand*.

10. Exhibited my Lect. on Eccl. History—of the Puritans. This day my Son Isaac æt. 17. Measured 5 f. 7 Inc. 8 tenths. Mr. Tutor Atwater & myself employed in investigating the Altitude of the Aurora Borealis of July 9<sup>th</sup> and find by compar<sup>s</sup> Mr. Goodrichs Observations & mine that the Angle aloft subtend<sup>s</sup> the Space from Durham to N. Haven could not exceed 20°, 15°, or more probably 8 or 10°. Accordingly that the Altitude could not be less than 33 Miles nor above 70 Miles—probably upon the Summit of the Atmosphere or thereabouts . . .

12. Chamber Lect. with a Theol. Class of 14. Original Sin.

13. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached for Mr. Mather he being sick, Jno.

v Attended at Chapel P.M. Professor Dagget preached on Mat.

vi, 33. Reading Mr. Mede's Writings upon the Apocalypse and the prophetic Numbers.

14. A great Consociation of the Chhs of New Haven County assembled at Cheshire last week upon Complaint & Dissatisfaction &c.<sup>1</sup> They sat while Saturd<sup>y</sup>, left Matters unfinished & adjourned to next. This day the special Association sat in the College Library, called for examining Sir Barlow whom they licensed as a candidate for the Ministry.<sup>2</sup>

15. Very hot. Therm. 95 at IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. in a Northern shade. This day we examined 2 Freshmen for next year, viz, Barns & Hart & admitted them. The reason of these applications for a premature Admission is to become free from Impress or Draught<sup>s</sup> into the military Service in the Time of War. But I am doubtful whether this would secure them, according to the true Intention of the College Charter or Acts of Assembly.

16. Professor Strong held his Math. Lect. He and the Tutors and myself much employed in construct<sup>g</sup> Diagrams for the Solution of the Phæn<sup>o</sup> of Aur<sup>o</sup> Bor. 9<sup>th</sup> July, at least for determining its Altitude. We at present are inclined to carry it at least to the Summit of the Atmosphere.

17. Repairing & cleansing the Chapel. I had no Lecture. Mathematical & Astron. Calculations.—Lett. from Newp<sup>t</sup> dated Aug 6<sup>th</sup> 1780—

"The whole Militia of our State (Rh. Isld) & of the C<sup>o</sup> of Bristol in Mass. Bay were immed<sup>y</sup> alarmed.—On no occasion since the War have the Militia so univers<sup>y</sup> turned out & with so much Alacrity—Persons of the first Rank & character took the Lead & were followed by persons of every Rank & Description. I was informed by Gen Heath that there were upwards of *Ten Thous<sup>d</sup> Men* assembled at Bristol and Tiverton, 6000 of w<sup>c</sup> were Inhabitants of this State. And the Number was increas<sup>g</sup> when the Militia were dismissed. I have no doubt but double that number might have been obtained if required.—Our Allies are much pleased with the conduct & spirit of the Militia. I dined at Count Rochambeau the French General's last Monday (31 July) last, in Comp<sup>a</sup> with Mr. Thatcher (Minister) of Attleborough, who had led his Parishioners into the Field. The General took most particular notice of him, appeared highly pleased with his Conduct, & assured him he should acquaint Gen. Wash. with it. Upon being informed that he had two Sons with him he insisted upon his detain<sup>g</sup> them that they might dine with him the next day

<sup>1</sup>The Rev. John Foot (Y. C. 1765) was opposed by a large minority in his Church and Society, but finally outlived the opposition.

<sup>2</sup>The career of Joel Barlow (Y. C. 1778) as a minister was brief. He was admitted to the bar in 1785.

(the *Militia were at this time dismissed*). I have been repeatedly in comp<sup>s</sup> with the Gen<sup>l</sup> but I never before saw him so much pleased.—The French Troops are a fine body of men, & appear to be well officered. Neither Officers nor men are the effeminate Beings we were heretofore taught to believe them. They are as large & as likely men as can be produced by any nation. —The Arrival of the Fleet & Army hath given new Life to the Town. There is more Business transact<sup>d</sup> and money circulat<sup>d</sup> than formerly. I wish however to hear of the Arrival of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Division w<sup>h</sup> will enable them to take the field. Much hath been expected from the present Campaign. But I begin to fear that nothing decisive will be done in America."

"WILLIAM CHANNING."

Gov. Cook of Prov. writes that the number of the Rh. Isld. Militia actually assembled was *Nine Thousand*. So 3000 must have been at Narrag. &c while 6000 at Bristol & Tiverton. Then 9000 Rh. Isld. 4000 Mass.=13,000 Militia plus 6000 French=19 or 20,000 waiting the Reception of the 8000 embark<sup>d</sup> from N. York. Some of the Connecticut Militia also joyned their Rh. Isld. Brethren on this occasion.

18. Died July 31 ult. at Bristol the Hon. Judge Russel æt. 74. A very respectable character in religious & civil Life.

19. Five or 600 Waggons from Philad<sup>a</sup> for Rh. Isld. passed this & last Week thro' Waterb<sup>y</sup>, Southington &c eastward to transport the Baggage of the French Army to No. River. Theol. Lect. on Atonement.

20. Ldsdy. The Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> preached all day on 1 Jn<sup>s</sup> v, 7, on the Doctrine of the Trinity. Sound & well composed Discourses! I have been 5 hours this day in Chapel. One hour at Morning Prayers; longer than usual as I expounded the 2<sup>nd</sup> Chapter of Matthew: we sing at Chapel Ldsdy morn<sup>s</sup> prayers; two hours divine Service Forenoon & Afternoon each, at w<sup>ch</sup> we sang five times; an hour Even<sup>s</sup> prayers at w<sup>ch</sup> one of the Students read a Sermon of D<sup>r</sup> Evans on the Xtian Temper. Read<sup>d</sup> Dr. Cudworth on the Union of Christ & his Chh.; also Mr. Jos. Mede on the Apocalypse . . . .

21. I attend a daily hebrew Recitation of the Freshmen. . . .

22. Arrived at B<sup>y</sup>. in 39 days fr. Port L'Orient in France a vessel, advising that Ld. George Gordon was in the Tower having headed 40 Thous<sup>d</sup> men in London who went to the Parl<sup>y</sup> & demanded a Redress of Grievances—they were fired upon & 500 killed. How much of this is true? . . . Died at Sandown in New Hampshire 27<sup>th</sup> of May last the Rev. Josiah Cotton æt. 77. He



was grad. at Harv. Coll. 1722 in President Claps class, ordained at Providence 1728 where he continued in the Min<sup>y</sup> 20 years. He was settled at Woburn for 12 years: then at Sandown for above 20 years. I knew him, he was a plain evangelical good man.

23. In the Winter of 1777 & 1778 while the Brit. Army lay in Philad<sup>a</sup> an extraord<sup>y</sup> Aur<sup>o</sup> Bor. was seen by Mr. Hazard the Postmaster then occasionally at Williamsburg in Virginia (Lat 37. 15. 55). It was judged by some at W<sup>m</sup>sburg to be Philadelphia on fire. The Corruscations reached high & nearly to the Zenith, the Body of Light much lower. The same was seen at Boston as Dr Gordon of Rox<sup>by</sup> informed Mr Hazard.

. . . . . I attended Professor Strongs Lecture on the Iris or Rainbow.

24. Professor Dagget had a Div<sup>y</sup> Lect. in the College Chapel. I was absent, at West Haven, where I preached for M<sup>r</sup> Williston from Jer. xxxiii, 8, 9, being a Season set apart for prayer & supplication on account of the pub. Judg<sup>ts</sup> & Destress of the Times. Very hot day. Therm<sup>o</sup> 95°.

This Afternoon at IV<sup>h</sup> died in this T<sup>o</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Tim<sup>o</sup> Jones Sen. Merch<sup>t</sup> ætat. 84. next October. He was hopefully converted about 1719 or 61 years before his death, by read<sup>g</sup> Jos. Alleins Alarm &c. He was an eminent Shopkeeper for about 40 years and honestly amassed a handsome Estate a consid. part of w<sup>o</sup> his Sons found occasion to expend before his death. He was ever religious, rather a prudent cautious Neutral in New Light Times, however his soul rather fell in with that Connexion, not that he was an Enthusiast but that he found among the Gentlemen of that Connexion a more ardent Piety & sincere Friendship to the Doctrines of Grace than in some others. He never could abide New Divinity. He loved the Puritan Doctrines without those Innovations which make God most holy & blessed the intentional Author of all Moral Evil, the Devil of the Universe, I found this upon renewing an Acquaintance which had formerly been very intimate. Upon my Return to N. Haven 1778 I found no man that received me with more cordial Affection than Mr. Jones: and he unbosomed his Mind to me with great Freedom. He loved all good men, & was more & more absorbed in the Love of God & the Love of that Jesus in whose Grace & meritorious Righteousness was all his Hope & all his glorying. After the Death of Mr. Pierpont 1715 he never was blessed with a Ministry to his evangelical Taste. D<sup>r</sup> Owen, D<sup>r</sup>

Dodderidge, D<sup>r</sup> Mathers & M<sup>r</sup> Pemberton & President Edw<sup>ds</sup> were Divines to his Taste. There was spiritual Hypocrisy in him, & other Imperfections (tho' no Vice) but a predominate principle of Holiness operated & produced in him the Character of a very worthy man & an excellent, an exemplary contemplative Xtian.

25. This day my D. Polly æt. 13.

This Aft. attended Mr. Jones's Funeral. At the Request of the Mourners I made a Prayer at the House,<sup>1</sup> & the Rev. Mr. Edw<sup>ds</sup> a Speech at the Grave, as is customary here. At a psons Death many characteristic Reflexions are made by friends & foes. In general the deceased was well spoken of. However it was said by some, "Dives is dead who has turned away many a Lazarus from his Door." He did many acts of charity conscientiously, not so much from a natural Beneficence, for he was very close to his Interest. It is said in long stand<sup>s</sup> accounts he took sometimes Advantages of the Widow & Orphans. But long neglected accounts sometimes subject Merchants to such Imput<sup>a</sup> when yet they have dealt with Honesty & Integrity. After all he needed a better Righteousness than his own to carry him to Heaven.

26. We have the London acc<sup>o</sup> of what they all call the Mob. It is thus—the Body of 50 Thousd assembled to present a Petition to Parl<sup>t</sup> for Repeal of their Act in favor of the Roman Catholics. Ld Geo. Gordon headed them & lead them up to the Parliam<sup>t</sup> house & presented the Pétition. Much Mischief was done, & many of the Nobility & Ministry were insulted & sustained Violence.

This Aft. our maid Betty, a Canadian Girl of phps æt. 25, accidentally tumbled down the Well phps 30 feet deep. [I measured it 30 feet to the water which is 5 feet deep.] We got her up very much bruised. She soon went into heavy convulsion Fits. The Doctor instantly let her blood in the right arm & took away thirty ounces of Blood or more being a great Bason twice full besides much spilled. In her fall to the Bottom of the Well she received a violent Contusion of her head—but not a Fracture either of the Scull or Limbs. The good Lord prepare us for sudden Death & dangerous Accidents.

27. Ldsdy. The Professor preached all day in the Chapel upon the Doctrine of *Election*, from Eph. i, 4-6. The Professor & all orthodox Divines suppose or speak as if they supposed, there were several possible Plans, upon which the Creation might be construc-

<sup>1</sup> On the west side of State street, north of Court.

ted; and so that the certain Futurition of the one adopted depended upon his determin<sup>s</sup> to take this rather than another—and so Foreknowledge dependeth upon Decree. I suppose there is *but one Plan possible* (see my inaugural Orat.) every other supposed possible plan involving ultimate Confusion. The Discernm<sup>t</sup> of this Plan scientifically or as speculatively possible is no Ground of certain Futurition. It therefore could not be foreknown as certain, separate from & without a predetermin<sup>a</sup> to create, & to create on this only possible Plan; and so with me *Foreknowledge depends on Decree*. Suppos<sup>s</sup> but one Plan, then the Decree to create at all, is a decreeing of that one Plan. At least there can be no certainty of the Futurition till God shall have at least decreed to create. And this is essentially necess<sup>y</sup> tow<sup>ds</sup> the Certainty of Foreknowledge. It may be said that Deity foreknows by a certain Discernm<sup>t</sup> similar to that which he sometimes imparted to the Prophets & Apostles, not depend<sup>t</sup> upon any determination in Gd. or the Creature; and that by this Scientia intuitiva he eternally beheld all the free Actions of moral Agents. But this is imaginary & unsatisfactory. At most it amounts to an eternal Perception or Descernm<sup>t</sup> of the only possible Plan. But antecedent to Gods eternal Determin<sup>a</sup> to create, the Futurition of this Plan could not be certain. And therefore the div. prescience of this must be only speculative as of an imaginary Possibility, not of a certain Reality. The ultimate end was a Display of the Glory of Gd. in acting out all the principles & pfections of the div. nature, that determined God to create. This determined—there was not option no choice of Plans with me. But then the certain Futurition of the only possible one depended on the divine free Choice & Volition. And tho' these Operations of the divine Mind were coeternal & without Succession; yet analysed accord<sup>g</sup> to the order of our Ideas, the Decree was the Basis of Certainty, that is there could be no Certainty without it—all supposed Science of the Event not founded on this, must in the order of nature (if in Coeternals this may be said) precede the Certainty of the Event, & so must be only speculative.

The Professor & others suppose that however there may be phps a multitude of possible Plans, yet *there is a best, a wisest*; and that Gd. adopted this. I think this *wisest* Plan the only Plan. It appears rather stronger upon his supposition of a choice of plans that Prescience depends on Decree. But it appears sufficiently strong on my supposition. The System of eternal Truth is harmonious,



simple, uniform & one—it cannot be multiform; that Universe whose Plan & Government is to be constructed accord<sup>d</sup> to the only system of eternal Truth, can be therefore but one—at least another cannot be formed equally wise & good either as to the *Display of Gds declarative Glory* or as to *Quantity of Holiness & Happiness* to be produced in the Universe.

It may be sd. a Decree to create, is not decreeing the plan even the only plan. I believe they inseparably involve one another. If not however this may be said, that antecedent in the coeternal Nature of Things to the Adoption or Decree of the either only or wisest plan, the Futurition cannot be certain—& consequently the prescience cannot be certain. The knowledge cannot be certain till the thing foreseen be certain in its own nature—& this cannot be even on the one only plan till adopted. Question.—Could Gd. foreknow his own Holiness or any of his moral Perfections, antecedent to his coeternal Volition & Choice of Holiness?

28. . . . This day my Son Ezra came here, in his way Eastward on Business for the Governor & Council of the State of Vermont, which he left about a week ago. He says Auroras are very frequent there, & sometimes all over & round the Horizon; particularly once this Summer about Ten o'Clock at night he saw, as he came out of his Office, a singular Auroral Effulgence in the Heavens, South of the Zenith at Westminster (130 m. N<sup>e</sup> fr. Yale Coll.) and a little West of the Meridian; on which he made this observ<sup>n</sup> to the Company that, “now there was End of the Aurora Borealis for here we had got it in the South.” It was a Circle of Light inclos<sup>d</sup> a central Spot of Darkness. From this Circle there issued forth (or were concentrated from each way towds it) radial Corruscations or Beams of Light. At IX<sup>h</sup> o'clock this Ev<sup>g</sup> he pointed or referred me to the position in the Hemisphere with respect to the Zenith & Meridian; & it fell on the bright star of Aquila which is 8° N. Lat. & not far fr. the Meridian. So that it shd. seem that it was above 30° South of the Zenith. There was much Aurora that night so that they sat up & viewed it till near midnight. It was a Thing greatly noticed by the pple & to them very alarming. It seemed to be a nocturnal Halo, effected either by auroral phosphorus, or by the Lunar Light, or by Reflexion of Solar Light from very highly elevated matter like the tail of a Comet. In the last case it must be very high even beyond the Lunar Orbit, but in this case it could not be attendant on the diurnal Mot. of the Earth. I am thotful this is

the same I saw on 28th July (when Mr. Tutor Atwater saw a similar Halo before I saw the Aurora) ; altho' it did not appear to me in a well defined central & radial appearance being rather an accumulation of Luminosity.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Goodrich was here this day, & we conferred upon the Aur<sup>o</sup> of 9<sup>th</sup> ult. He says his son Sir Goodrich says that his father first judged the Corusc<sup>a</sup> crossed  $15^{\circ}$  but afterw<sup>ds</sup> (during the appearance) more, & finally settled it at  $25^{\circ}$  S<sup>o</sup> of Zenith. The way he estimated, was to divide the Arch fr. Zenith to Horizon into 3 parts  $30^{\circ}$  each, & the crossing was a little beyond the first  $30^{\circ}$  fr. Zenith. A good Judg<sup>t</sup> ! This Even<sup>g</sup> we compared on the celestial Globe, & he estimated the Range between Lyra & so near Aquila that he rests in the Intersection at  $25^{\circ}$  S<sup>o</sup> of the Zenith.

29. Received a Lett. of 22<sup>d</sup> Inst. from the Hon. Mr. Sherman at Congress inclosing one of first Inst. for the Rev. James Maddison President of W<sup>m</sup> & Mary College in Virginia in answer to mine of 12 July last. It is a learned Letter, giving an account of that College.

30. The Superior Court is sitting in this Town, & trying the Traders to Long Isld. Professor Strong gave a Lecture on Parallaxes.

[Gen. Parsons says that Gen. Wash. has a larger & better Army than last year.]

31. Professor Daggett had a Div<sup>y</sup> Lect. in the Chapel, on the Decrees. Gen. Wash. is removed on Bergen side of N<sup>o</sup> R. to within about eight Miles of the City of N. York. Gen. Clinton is airing the British, parad<sup>g</sup> some of them to the East End of L. Isld. He himself had got as far eastward & against Milford & turned about. . . . .

## September

1. The Aur<sup>o</sup> Bor. of the night of friday 28<sup>th</sup> July was observed by Lovett one of the Students of the College then at Norwich in Connecticut. His Description is thus. He observed a Luminousness & went to bed before Nine, as did the family. Sometime after, he judges between Ten & Eleven tho uncertain as to the time, however after a solid nap, his Father called him up to see the Phænomenon. There was a central Circle of Darkness about five or 6 Diam<sup>rs</sup> of the horizontal Moon at least, or more, & distant from the Zenith its Diam. to S. E. tho' near the Meridian—rather further S<sup>o</sup> fr. Zenith than Lyra was Aug<sup>t</sup> 28<sup>th</sup> begin<sup>g</sup> Even<sup>g</sup> . . .

It continued about half an hour. The Corruscations reached from the Zenith each way to within twenty degrees or  $15^{\circ}$  of the Horizon. . .

2. Rev. Mr. Eccles<sup>1</sup> of Boston visited me. He tells me that it is judged there are as many or more Inhab. now in Boston as ever heretofore. They were formerly fifteen Thousd Souls. Yet so greatly are they degenerated as to Religion, that the present D<sup>r</sup> Mather judges not *one sixth* attend publick worship. The good Lord pour out his Sp<sup>t</sup> & cause a Revival of Religion in this antient City of our Solemnities & thro' the Land.

3. Ldsdy. Professor Daggett preached A.M. and P.M. 1 Jno. i, 3, and administered the Sacrament in the Chapel, present 13 Communicants.

Paul Fagius published an Hebrew Copy of Tobit, brought from Constantinople. The two Captivities of the Jews & building of a third Temple, and the subsequent Conversion of the Gentiles, are therein described more clearly than in the LXXII Copy. Mr. Mede gives an Extract from the Original, which I translate :

“And the remnant of our Brethren of Israel which are at Jerusalem shall all of them go into Captivity and Jerusalem shall become Heaps and the mountain of the House as the Summits of a Forest, and it shall be a Desolation for a *little time*.

And then shall the Children of Israel ascend and rebuild it, and also the House : yet not according to the first Structure. And they shall remain there until one Age be fulfilled.

And again shall they go into a Captivity mighty and great : but God (blessed be he) shall remember them and collect them from the four Wings of the Earth. And Jerusalem shall be built upon a beautiful construction.

And the Temple itself shall be rebuilt an illustrious Structure, a Structure which shall not be destroyed forever, in *sæculum* & in *sæcula sæculorum*, as the Prophets have said. Then shall the Gentiles be converted to the worship of the Ld, & shall cast away Sculptilia Deorum suorum, & render praise & Confession to his glorious Name,” &c.

Remark 1. Was Tobit written originally in Hebrew or Caldee? This is pure Hebrew. 2. Did the usage obtain in Tobit's time of calling God **הקדוש ברוך הוא**, as it has since Simeon the just the last of the great Synagogue, when the Jews left off pronouncing the word Jehovah & substituted for it Adonai, Elohim, or **קב"ה**. This seems to indicate a Transl<sup>a</sup> in the Time of 2<sup>d</sup> House. However this Diction might be also customary under the first

<sup>1</sup> Joseph Eckley, Pastor of the Old South Church, Boston.



House. 3. I should suppose it originally written in Hebrew. And where Jerome seems to speak of a Chaldee copy, I should take the Chaldee to be a Targum & not original. 4. A first Captivity of Judah to be *short*, & a 2<sup>d</sup> Capt<sup>y</sup> very long & heavy . . . . 5. After this first Capt<sup>y</sup> & Return they are to remain one עולם Age, & then after the Crucifixion of the Messiah they go into the גלות רב וגדל great, great. 6. At the End of which viz 2300 years after the Destruction & Desol<sup>a</sup> of the second Temple, God will remember them and gather them, and a third Temple shall be built to last the age of ages. 7. The Calling of the Gentiles to be after the reassembling of the Jews at Jerusalem. 8. I conceive from Vespasian to the Return (but not conversion) of the Jews will be 2300 years: so A.D. 2370 the Sanctuary to be cleansed. That thereupon the Gentiles will be called & converted immediately. That the Jews will rebuild the 3<sup>d</sup> Temple not in Jerusalem but about perhaps 20 miles North of it & elect themselves a King whose Name shall be David or Beloved. That the whole Mosaic Sacrificature will be reinstated & this (mysteriously to me) with the Approbation of God. Ezek. 44. 4. Surely Gods returning Glory is high Approbation. That there will be another & greater Apostacy of the Xtian Chh. so that when Christ comes shall he find Faith on Earth? That after the Jews have lived & flourished in the holy Land 3 or 400 years, or  $1290 + 1335 = 2625$ , i. e., about A.D. 2700, then shall the Son of Man or Jesus Christ appear, to commence the Millennium. He shall bring with him the Saints of the first Resurrection, Rev. xx, 5, and they shall in Spiritual Bodies reign with him here on Earth 1000 years. Satan bound & an universal apparent Conversion of Jews & Gentiles, and Reign of Virtue & Peace & the literal Fulfilment of last Chapters of Isaiah. At the latter End of this Period (which whether 1000 years literally or prophetically & so 360,000, is uncertain—but however a great Space of Time . . . ) Satan will be let loose & deceive the Nations of apparent Virtue & proving the Corruption of their Hearts form an Interest, Gog & Magog daring eno' to attempt dethroning the Emanuel himself the reigning Jesus. And encompassing the holy City Jerusalem, Fire shall miraculously come from Heaven & consume them as it did Sodom & Gomorrah.

Mr. Mede on the 1260 Days does not begin them with Alstedius either of his 4 Epochaes A.D. 362, 376, 382, 433. "The h. Ghost, he says, reckons the Epocha or beginning of Antichrist from the

taking of that w<sup>c</sup> hindred out of the way, i. e. the then reigning Imperial Sovereignty of the Roman Beast." page 449. Alsted addeth the Numbers in Daniel one upon the head of another  $1290 + 1335 = 2625$  the End of the World. But Mede thinks not so. He thinks these numbers not to be thus added, but both from one beginning—And that their Epocha is not the Destruction by Titus but the Prophan<sup>a</sup> by Antiochus Epiphanes.

Now I think the great Mede mistaken here : and all the Divines writ<sup>s</sup> on prophetic Numbers. The 1260 days is the Period of the efficacious Dominion of the Pontiff, which is to last till the Return of the Jews & the Ingathering of the Gentiles A.D. 2370. Counting therefore back it commences in the Depth of Papacy A.D. 1110. About this time the Pontifical Tyranny was in its greatest Force : persecuted and expelled the *Waldenses & Bohemians*. It is not necessary that it shd. begin when Rome *began* to become Pontifical, or *when* the Man of Sin *began*, for this was in the Apostles' Times. In general the excellent Mede, with other apocalyptic Commentators, are in too great a hurry for Accomplishments . . .

4. One of the Students Spencer 1. tells me that on the Evening of 28th July he & one or 2 of his Classmates sat up while<sup>1</sup> about midnight looking out for the expected Comet. That they saw the Auroral Light down to the Southern Horizon, & between XI & XII they saw in the South, between the Zenith & the Horizon, Corruscation concentral, but most plentifully to the South, reaching down to the Horizon.

A Man of West Haven was on guard that night & tells me that he did not observe such a rosal appearance : but did observe many Corruscations ascend<sup>s</sup> from about halfway between the Horizon & Zenith & seeming to concenter aloft.

5. Dr. Darling<sup>2</sup> at Amity &c. observed on 28<sup>th</sup> July, about ten o'clock in Even<sup>s</sup> concentral Corruscations shooting in & about a luminous spot, by their pointing to me about an hour S. E. of the Zenith. I find several persons observed the same.

6. Received a Letter from Sir Goodrich, with Observ<sup>a</sup> on the Aurora of 9<sup>th</sup> July. Professor Strong held his Lecture.

7. Public Examination of the Classes. Several have Leave of Absence as it draws nigh Commencement. The 3 classes consist

<sup>1</sup> Used, as elsewhere by Dr. Stiles, instead of "until."

<sup>2</sup> Samuel Darling (Y. C. 1769), son of Judge Thomas Darling who lived in Amity Parish, now Woodbridge, Conn.; afterwards a druggist in New Haven.

about 96 of which 80 were present in Chapel. We examined 21 Seniors, the rest out of Town, 3 of whom sailed for Rd. Isld. &c this Morning. Atwater made a Latin Oration A.M., & P.M. an Eng. Dialogue. Exam<sup>a</sup> in Languages, Logic, Math., Geogr<sup>a</sup>, Philosophy & Astron<sup>y</sup>.

8. The scholars begin to importune Leave of return<sup>e</sup> home. However yesterday Morn<sup>e</sup> the three classes stood as follows

|                    |       |                                             |
|--------------------|-------|---------------------------------------------|
| Young Senior Class | 26.   | of which 2 abs. & out of T <sup>o</sup> for |
| Jun. Class         | 24    | 2 sickness only                             |
| Soph.              | 46    | 3                                           |
|                    | <hr/> | <hr/>                                       |
|                    | 96    | 7 ab. for Sickness except 1.                |

This day we examined the Junior Class in the Languages, Eng. Grammar, Logic, Arith. & Algebra, & Geography. Hooker made a Lat. Oration, and English Dialogue, Merwin made an Eng. Oration; 20 present. This day I rusticated Fuller 1 for one year; & ordered him to study under the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Robinson of Southington. Inclusive of him the Absentees are 13 to day.

9. Gov. Reed of Pensylv<sup>a</sup> with 3000 militia lately marched to joyn Gen. Washington's Camp. News this aft. that Gen. Gates whole Army in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> is routed by the Enemy.

10. Ldsdy. I preached at Bethany for Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hawley gone to visit his aged Father at the point of Death. I administered the Sacram<sup>t</sup> of the Lds. Supper to his Chh.

11. Returned to Town. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> of the College met this day being earlier than usual on account of important college Matters. My son Ezra<sup>1</sup> returned here from Newport, Rh. Isld., which he left last Thursdy.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Langdon resigned the Presidency of Harvard College the week before last [Aug 29<sup>th</sup> Tuesday and Sept. 13 the Overseers accepted it] on account of the Dissatisfaction of the Scholars; but not for any Immorality or Impeachment of Character, it being venerable for Virtue.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Inserted in the Diary is a pencil sketch of "Ezra Stiles, jun. Esq. of Vermont, æ. 22. J. Honeywood pinx. Sept. 13, 1780." St. John Honeywood was a graduate of Yale in 1782.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Langdon's position had long been precarious. In a letter to Dr. Stiles of June 8, 1779, he says:—I have met with continual difficulties since I have been in my present Station, by the War, & the fluctuating Medium; yet I do not repine, as I think divine Providence pointed out my path of Duty.



13. Private Commencement here. We conferred the Degrees in a general Diploma, which when completed was read publicly in the Chapel. Then in the Library I presented each of the candidates standing round together in a circle, with their particular Diplomas.

## BACHELORS OF ARTS.

|                               |                 |                                     |                       |
|-------------------------------|-----------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Barnet        | £1. 4. 0 silver | Æneas Munson                        | 289 Cont.             |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Bostwick     | 1. 4. 0         | Sam <sup>l</sup> Nott               | Disc <sup>o</sup> 24/ |
| Stephen Chester               | 1. 4            | Tim <sup>o</sup> Phelps             | 28/ silv.             |
| Tho. Chester                  | 1. 4            | Erastus Pixley                      | 50/ State             |
| Mason F. Cogswell             | 32/             | Dan <sup>l</sup> Potter             | 25/ State             |
| Daniel Cook                   | 28/             | Jn <sup>o</sup> Robinson            | gratis                |
| Worthington Ely               | gratis          | Jabez Hunt. Tomlinson               | gratis                |
| W <sup>m</sup> Fowler         | 40 Paper State  | Lemuel Tyler                        | 24/ silv.             |
| Mat. Griswold                 | 24/ silv.       | W <sup>m</sup> Jos. Whiting         | 24/                   |
| Roger Griswold                | 24/             | Joshua W <sup>ms</sup>              | 24                    |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Lay           | — 24/           | W <sup>m</sup> Aug. W <sup>ms</sup> |                       |
| Oliver C. Lewis               | 43 State        | W <sup>m</sup> Woodbridge           | 24/                   |
| — Lord                        | 24/ Silv.       | Sam <sup>l</sup> Russel             | 28/                   |
| Jon <sup>a</sup> Ogden Mosley | 28/             |                                     | 27                    |

Equal about £30 L. M. Silver.

## MASTERS OF ARTS.

|                            |                            |                           |                    |
|----------------------------|----------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------|
| Silas Marsh                | 1764—240 Cont. @ 72 for 1  | Jn <sup>o</sup> Camp      | 40/ St.            |
| Jos. Bullen                | 1772—24/ silver            | Sam <sup>l</sup> Cogswell | gratis             |
| Ezra Starr                 | 1774—half Joe              | Eli Curtiss               | not pd.            |
| Rich <sup>d</sup> Sill     | 1775—30/ State             | James Davenport           | 1 Guinea & 2 Doll. |
| Benj <sup>a</sup> Welles   | 50/ St.                    | Eben <sup>r</sup> Fitch   | 40 St.             |
| Simeon Hyde                | 1776 30/St. & 1 Silv. Dol. | Sam <sup>l</sup> Hopkins  | gratis             |
| Joel Northrop              | 4 Doll.                    | Tho. Ives                 | 40/ St.            |
| Gwilian Phelps             | 40/ St.                    | Levi Lankton              | —40 St.            |
| John Avery                 | 40 St.                     | W <sup>m</sup> Little     | 40/ St.            |
| Elijah Backus              | 1                          | Medad Rogers              | 40/ St.            |
| Dudley Baldwin             | 1 Guinea                   | Jared Root                | 40/ State          |
| Jon <sup>a</sup> Baldwin   | 40/ State                  | Dan <sup>l</sup> Tracy    | 40/ St.            |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> Barker     | 40/ St.                    | N. Haynes Whiting         | 24/                |
| Eben <sup>r</sup> Bushnell | 40/ St.                    |                           | 27                 |

Equal £33. State and £3. 15. 0 Silver or £25 Silver

30  
—  
55

And also Mr. Solomon Southwick<sup>1</sup> of Newport A.M. at Philad<sup>a</sup> & Rev. W<sup>m</sup> Rogers of Philad<sup>a</sup> A.M. at Rh. Isld. Coll. were admitted ad eundem Gradum magistralem in Artibus.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary, March 18, 1777.

Three of the Northampton Refugees applied for Readmission, Sheldon, Ives, Chaffee.<sup>1</sup> Resolved that upon Confession for withdrawing from College without Permission, & approv<sup>e</sup> themselves on Examin<sup>a</sup> by the first of Nov. next, they be restored.

14. Involved in College Business. The Tutors have examined & admitted 39 Freshmen.

15. The Rev. Mr. Salter resigned his place at the Board as Fellow of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale College. And his place being vacant, We proceeded by Ballot & elected the Rev. Euoc Huntington Fellow in his Room. Votes thus—

for Tutor, Dana—The President—for Rev. Mr. Huntington of Middletown.

|         |                           |   |   |   |                           |
|---------|---------------------------|---|---|---|---------------------------|
| D —     | Mr. Elip. W <sup>ms</sup> | . | . | . | Rev. Mr. Stone of Lebanon |
| Fitch   | Mr. W. W <sup>ms</sup>    | . | . | . | Mr. Hunt.                 |
| F       | Mr. Trumbull              | . | . | . | Mr. Hunt.                 |
| F       | Mr. Johnson               | . | . | . | Mr. Hunt.                 |
| F       | Mr. Taylor                | . | . | . | Mr. Hunt.                 |
| Baldwin | Mr. Goodrich              | . | . | . | Mr. Hunt.                 |
| D       | Mr. Lockwood              | . | . | . | Mr. Stone                 |
| F       | Mr. Pitkin                | . | . | . | Mr. Stone                 |

The Corpor<sup>a</sup> also elected a Tutor in Order of Vacancy, & chose Ebenezer Fitch A.M. Tutor. Votes as above. Mr. Dana & Mr. Dudley Baldwin also voted for. The Corporation stated my Salary £240 Silver for year past equal to £160 in Provision. . . .

16. All college evacuated. . . . .

£240 Salary

55 Degree Money

2 Sealing Diplomas —  $\frac{1}{2}$  & gave other  $\frac{1}{2}$  to Searl

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£297

17. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel all day on Jno. iii, 19.

18. At Carmel I viewed Cousin Munsons Gig-Mill. . . . . It goes around 115 times in one minute & grinds a bushel of wheat in eleven minutes & half by the Watch. It easily grinds 40, 50 & 60 Bush. p day. A common Mill grinds 50 60 & 70 Bush. p day from sun-rise to night—100 Bush. all night as well as day. The Gig Mill grinds as well & nearly as fast. It requires no more water than what passes through an Aperture 3 inc. by  $5\frac{1}{2}$ . It is judged this is not a sixth part of the water necess<sup>y</sup> to carry a common

<sup>1</sup> Of these three persons, Samuel B. Sheldon, Joseph Ives, and Hezekiah Chaffee, only Ives returned to College.

Grist Mill. There are but four of these Mills in the world, all in Connecticut; one is Mr. Kelseys the Inventor at Middleton, one at New Britain in Farmington, one in Farmingb<sup>y</sup> in Southington, & this at Carmel. There is a fifth Constructing in Lennox in Berkshire C<sup>o</sup> Mass. Bay. The Inventor keeps it secret—but it ought to be divulged and he to receive an ample Rew<sup>d</sup> from the publick.

I conceive the 16 Inc. aperture at bottom too small; & that this with the Length of the wheel produces dead water. For I find the water of the first Revolution comes close atop & my cousin thinks the Breadth of the spirals do not exceed the  $5\frac{1}{2}$  Inc. width of the horizontal Column of water—and that the water makes twelve Revolutions in the wheel before it falls out at Bottom. I conceive therefore that a wheel 3 feet high would be better than 5 or six. I judge his wheel too big atop & too small at bottom. It moves horizontally on a vertical axis. I saw it grind two Bushels of Rye exceed<sup>s</sup> well & bolt it at the same time.

19. Proxy at New Haven. Mess. Hilhouse & Munson Deputies. The Freemen also voted for Delegates to Congress in Nomination.

20. This day there is to be a Congress of Generals at Hartford. Gen. Washington is to meet the French Gen. Mr. Rochambeau. We have News that Adm. Rodney with ships of the Line are arrived from the W. Indies at New York. This defeats our Campaign. We have also News of the Enemy's committ<sup>d</sup> Depred<sup>a</sup> upon the interior Frontiers by the British & Indians. The King prorogued the Parl<sup>t</sup> 8<sup>th</sup> July. Prosecutions & Executions of Rioters are going on high in Engld.

21. Rev. Mr. Lothrop of Gilead tells me he well remembers the Aurora Bor. in March 1750 overspread the whole Heavens with an universal Redness. He well remembers its extend<sup>d</sup> & spread<sup>d</sup> far down the southern Part of the Hemisphere. He was then keeping school at Raynham the Spring after he took his degree which was 1749. I perfectly remember seeing it, but had forgot the year rather think<sup>d</sup> it was 1751; but I cannot be positive how far it spread South of the Zenith. Accord<sup>d</sup> to Mr. Lothrop it shd seem to have extended near the Southern Horizon.

Aug. 16 ult. at two A.M. a bloody Battle was fought within eight miles of Cambden S<sup>c</sup> Car<sup>r</sup> between G. Gates at the head of about Three Thous<sup>d</sup> men, 900 of whom were regulars, & the British forces under Earl Cornwallis consist<sup>d</sup> of 1800 Regulars & 2400 Refugees.—the Americans lost the Battle. . . . .



I sat out from Yale Coll. Sept. 22 on a Journey to Rh. Isld. & returned Oct. 25, & now make these Entries.<sup>1</sup>

22. Various Reports & Sensations on public Affairs. . . . Set out on my Journey—lodged at North Haven at my Brothers, where in Even<sup>g</sup> I observed an Aur. Bor. under the Pole as last night.

23. Dined at Dr. Dana's. . . . .

24. Ldsdy. I preached at Meriden for Rev. Mr. Hubbard absent on a Journey to Rh. Isld. . . . .

25. Journey thro' Middlet<sup>o</sup>. Saw a man in Chatham æt. 76, born in Middlet<sup>o</sup> who remembers old Rev. Noadiah Russel one of the first Trustees of Yale Coll. & says he was a little man in stature—pious & holy—visited *all* his Flock round *twice a year*, giving good & holy Counsel :—says that ministers savoured more of heavenly Convers<sup>a</sup> 60 y. ago than now. I lodged at Rev. Mr. Parsons in E. Hampton.

Mr. Parsons observed the memorable dark day 19 May. The greatest Observ<sup>a</sup> of Darkness fell at E. Hampton at XI<sup>h</sup> 30 A.M. by his Watch. He saw the sun a few Minutes before Eleven o'clock. It began to lighten in the N. W. 20' before noon, & the Darkness went off & recovered usual Light of a cloudy day at half after Twelve at noon. Many dined there by Candles, misjudging the Time, he did not as he had a watch. The sun seen at Middlefield. . . . .

26. Visited his Excell<sup>y</sup> Gov. Trumbull at Lebanon, examined & admitted 5 Freshmen of w<sup>o</sup> one was the Gov. Gr. son,<sup>2</sup> and lodged at Ripley's in Scotland.

27. N. E. Storm—reached only to Bowens, about 2 miles within Rh. Isld. in Coventry. Read<sup>g</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Backus' History.

28. At Gov. Greenes in Warwick ; examined & admitted his son into the Freshman class.

29. Rode with Gov. Greene to Mr. Ellerys in Cranston, Member of Congress & one of the Commissioners of Admiralty at Philad<sup>a</sup> for Congress with Salary of 1800 silver Doll. p annum. I spent the Eveng at Providence in Comp<sup>a</sup> with that learned Mathematician & Astronomer Mr. West,<sup>3</sup> who saw the Corrusc<sup>a</sup> of Aurora 9 July & described it on paper. . . . .

30. Proceeded to Rhode Isld—Newport.

<sup>1</sup> The entries in the Diary are supplemented by extracts from the Itinerary, in a separate volume.

<sup>2</sup> Jabez, son of Gen. Jedidiah and Faith (Trumbull) Huntington.

<sup>3</sup> Professor Benjamin West, of Brown University.

## October

1. Ldsdy. Attended & heard Mr. Hopkins in the Sabb. Bapt. Meeting, who administered the Sacr<sup>t</sup> to about 30 Communicants, when I partook. P.M. I preached Rom. xii, 2, my Congreg<sup>a</sup> attend<sup>d</sup>. News of Gen. Arnold's Treachery. G. Heath yest<sup>r</sup> left Newp<sup>t</sup> for West Point.

3. Visiting my Newport Flock.

5. Introduced to the Commander in Chief of the French allied Army the Count de Rochambeau.

7. Dined at the Generals—de Rochambeau, in a splendid manner. There were perhaps 30 at Table. I conversed with the General in Latin. He speaks it tolerably. Gen. Arnolds flight from West Point 25<sup>th</sup> ult.

8. Ldsdy. I preached in the Sabb. Meeting to my dear Newp<sup>t</sup> Flock. A.M. Heb. iv, 14-16. P.M. Tit. iii, 4-7. My Meeting-house and three others taken up for Hospitals. I notified the Sacrament.

9. Dined at Gen. de Chatelux in a splendid manner on 35 Dishes. He is a capital Literary Character, a Member of the French Academy. He is the Glory of the Army. After Dinner the Minister of France the Chevalier de la Luzerne with the General came in & socially conversed round the Table. We had news last even<sup>g</sup> that Major Andre, the British Spy connected with Arnold, was executed at G. Washington's Camp last Monday noon.

10. Visiting.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Dr. Stiles copies in his Itinerary a letter of this date, written by him to Benjamin Franklin, mainly a description of Kelsey's grist-mill. He adds:—

I am now on a Visit to Newport where we have a fine French Army with a Naval Force. The Chevalier de Chatelux the second Major Gen. under M. Rochambeau is a Lover of Literature as well as every Thing tending to the Happiness of Society & the Aggrandiz<sup>m</sup> of Republics. He does me the Honor of conveying this to your Hands by the Ship now bound from hence to France. By the same Ship you will receive the acc<sup>t</sup> of the Treason & Apostacy of one of our greatest Generals & the happy Detection of it before the Treason was carried into Execution. Gen. Arnold has buried all his military Glory, & sends his Name down in History execrated with Contempt & Infamy. He will be despised not only by us in the United States but by all the Nations of Europe & in all future Ages. There is reason to believe that he meditated with the Reddition of West Point, the betraying at the same time of Gen. Wash. & the Minister of France into the hands of the Enemy. For his Excell<sup>y</sup> the Chevalier de la Luzerne told me that passing thro' W. Point in his way hither the day before the Detection, G. Arnold importuned him even to Indecency to tarry &

11. Dined at Mr. Channings with Gen. Veiomene<sup>l</sup> & Chattelux & a number of French Officers. In the Even<sup>g</sup> I held a Chh. Meet<sup>g</sup> at Sister Searings & preached on 1 Thess. iii, 12-13.

12. Visiting.

15. Ldsdy, I preached A.M. 2 Cor. v, 2, & administered the Sacra<sup>t</sup> to my Chh phps. 30 communicants. P.M. 1 Thess. ii, 19, 20, and admitted Mrs. Eliza Balfour Wife of Major And<sup>w</sup> Balfour into full Communion with my Church.

16. Writ<sup>e</sup> Lett to D<sup>r</sup> Franklin at Paris.<sup>1</sup> Saw in the Papers an acc<sup>o</sup> of a pub. Commencem<sup>t</sup> at Dartmouth College, Sept. 20, 1780 & the Degree of Doctor of Divinity conferred there on D<sup>r</sup> Whitaker of Salem, the Rev<sup>d</sup> Jos. Huntington of Coventry in Connecticut, & myself.

17. Anniversary of the Victory at Saratoga 1777.

18. Visited Gen. de Chattelux & presented him with my Description of the Kelsey Mill a new American Invention.

19. Took Leave of the General the Count de Rochambeau and all Friends at Newport & left it & sat out on Journey for N. Haven.

20. Dined at Hon. Mr. Marchants in Narraganset. D<sup>r</sup> Torrey accompanied me thither. He told me that President Wadsworth always preached at Cambridge once a month, & always without Notes. Lodged at D<sup>r</sup> Bartletts, Charlestown.

22. Ldsdy. At Stonington . . . . . I preached for Mr. Elles A.M. & P.M. Tit. iii—& in Even<sup>g</sup> at the Point from 2<sup>d</sup> Cor. v, ult. Lodged at Mr. Chesebro's.

23. At Rev. Mr. Johnsons.

rest there 4 or 5 days. And Arnold also knew Gen. Wash. would meet there at the same Time on his Return from an Interview with the French Officers at Hartford.

Gen. Arnold is a Loss! But America is so fertile in Patriots, that we can afford to sell a Patriot or two every year without an essential Injury to the glorious Cause of Liberty & Indep<sup>s</sup>. The great Injury he can do us will be in Information. However the present State of the Amer. Army is now so good as that the most thoro<sup>e</sup> knowledge of it will rather do us a Benefit than Injury. The seasonable Execution of Major Andre (the Seducer) Adj. Gen. of the British Army, will probably deter such Adventurers for the future.

<sup>1</sup> The object of this Letter was "to procure in Exchange of prisoners Jn<sup>o</sup> Bunnel of N. Haven, taken June 25, 1777, on board a Merch<sup>t</sup> Brig fr. Charle<sup>s</sup>, S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>, bound to France, and put on board the Valiant Man o' War, a 74-Gun Ship, from which lying at Portsm<sup>o</sup>, Oct. 28, 1777, he wrote a Letter to his Father M<sup>r</sup> Israel Bunnel."



24. Crossed Saybrook Ferry—& reached Branford. Lodged at Mr. Eells in N<sup>o</sup> Branf<sup>d</sup>. This day the Fall Vacation ends at Yale College. At Harvard College they have admitted 39 Freshmen. . . .

25. Arrived at Yale College—& found orders set up yesterday by the Tutors :—found my Family well. Deo O. M. Grates.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. President Clap was born in Scituate in Massachusetts June 26. 1703. His Father was Mr. Stephen Clap and his Mother was Mrs. Temperance Gorham of Barnstable.

1722. He graduated at Harv. Coll.

1726. Settled in the Min<sup>r</sup> in Windham.

1739. Elected to the Rectorate in Yale College.

1745. Constituted President in the new College Charter.

1754. Sett up Ldsdy Worship in the College Hall.

1750. Built the new College. 1761. Built College Chapel.

1766. Sep. Resigned the presidency.

1767. Jany 9. Died in N. Haven, Æ 64.

I attended Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers in the Chapel; present 40 Scholars. Examined & admitted Cogswell into the Freshman Class, which now consists of 54.

26. Gave Leave of Absence to Robbins for 3 M & put him under M<sup>r</sup> Lewis—& to Hinman 1 till 1 Dec. & put him under Professor Strong. At Morn<sup>g</sup> prayers I ordered Recitation to begin at XI this forenoon, & committed the care of the Freshmen to Mr. Tutor Atwater. Accordingly at XI<sup>h</sup> I heard the Senior Class in the last Volume of Martin's Philosophy & the Juniors in the Greek Testament. Making Prepar<sup>a</sup> for observing the Eclipse to-morrow.

27. Somewhat cloudy. However we observed the solar Eclipse—& found the Begin<sup>g</sup> XI<sup>h</sup> 52', 20". End I. 31' 38" P.M. app. Time. The clock compared with the College Meridian at noon in the midst of the Eclipse—the Merid. made by Professor Strong formerly by Arrangement of Alioth & the Pole Star with perpendicular Threads.

Commons set up this day for 44. I appointed Honeywood, Goodrich & Fuller Waiters in the Hall. I received a Letter from Mr. Tutor Lockwood from the Army dated 14<sup>th</sup> Instant wherein he informs that he has accepted a Chaplainship in the Army in Gen. Nixons Brigade, & asks to resign the Tutorship. And this afternoon I dispatched a Letter to Mr. Eben<sup>r</sup> Fitch, Tutor Elect.

28. Ordered the Juniors to recite Martin's Phil. Grammar to me in the Mornings; and Algebra at Noon to Mr. Tutor Atwater; and

at V<sup>h</sup> P.M. Cicero de Orat. to Mr. Tutor Goodrich. Present in Town 9 Seniors, 11 Juniors, 30 Soph., 38 Freshmen = 78.

29. Ldsdy. Mr. Mather being absent on a Journey into the Southern States during the Winter for his Health, I preached for him A.M. Tit. iii. P.M. Lam. iii, 24-26. Jno<sup>o</sup> Whit<sup>g</sup><sup>1</sup> Esq., æt. 75 visited me on way to N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>.

30. Seniors Disput<sup>a</sup>—Nulla dantur Ideæ innatæ. Atwater Resp. I appointed Catlin 1 Butlers Waiter to Mr. Baldwin, Butler. Examined & admitted Masters into the Soph. Class. Also examined Bull for Fresh. Class & rejected him.

31. Ives, one of the Northampton Refugees, returned, made a pub. Confession in the Chapel for disorderly leav<sup>g</sup> College last Spring without Leave—& restored. Exam<sup>d</sup> Bliss & W<sup>ms</sup> & admitted them.

#### November

1. Undergraduates present in Town at this time.

|         |    |    |
|---------|----|----|
| Seniors | 11 | 26 |
| Juniors | 17 | 24 |
| Soph.   | 31 | 47 |
| Fresh.  | 45 | 56 |

---

103 present out of 153

2. A violent Snow Storm yesterday—cleared off this morn<sup>g</sup>. I sent off Atwater a Senior Sophister an Express to Mr. Fitch Tutor Elect on Business in IX Partners. No Phil. Lect. yesterday—nor Eccl. Hist. Lect. to day.

3. . This Afternoon Mr. Tutor Lockwood came into town with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hitchcock. Mr. Hitchcock is going on to Beverly—by him I sent a Letter to Mr. Gannet of Camb. & Secretary of the Acad<sup>y</sup> of Sciences with acc<sup>o</sup> of Observ<sup>a</sup> of solar Eclipse, and also a Recommend<sup>a</sup> of Jn<sup>o</sup> Francis Chevalier de Chatellux, Maj. Gen. of the French Army for an Enrollment into the Massach. Acad<sup>y</sup> of Sciences.

4. They went out of town. Appointed Dana Waiter in the Hall till March—then Willard.

<sup>1</sup> Son of Rev. Samuel and Elizabeth (Adams) Whiting, of Windham, Conn., and a graduate of Yale in 1726. He formerly lived in Newport, and now in Scotland, a parish in Windham. He was second cousin of the deceased wife of Dr. Stiles.

5. Ldsdy. I attended with my Family in the College Chapel as usual. Professor Daggett preached all day upon Heb. ii, 3, & administered the Sacr<sup>t</sup>, altho only seven present. At divine Service this day in the Chapel 91 Students present.

6. A Battle between a Corps of the Brit. Army 1400 under Col. Ferguson, & 1600 of ours under Col. W<sup>ms</sup> &c on *seventh of Oct.* last at Kings Mountain near Charlotte in Carolina. The Enemy were defeated, Col. Ferg. & 150 of his men were killed & 800 made prisoners & 1500 Stands of Arms taken. Our Col. Williams mortally wounded. The Battle began at four o'Clock P.M. & continued *fourty seven minutes*; Our pple surrounded the En<sup>y</sup> & they surrendered. We lost twenty men.

The Enemy have made great Desolations up Mohawk River & in the Frontiers. Their Corps is under Sir Jn<sup>o</sup> Johnson, amounting to 730 picked men from 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup> Brit. Regts. Hessian Yagers, Sir Jn<sup>os</sup> Reg<sup>t</sup> Butlers Rangers, & Brandts Corps of Indians & Tories. They had two Brass Mortars & 1 Brass three pounder. Gov. Clinton & his Force repelled them on the        We have taken 40 prisoners. . . , . .

The Seniors Disput<sup>a</sup>, Jus Regum non est jure divino hæreditarium. Breed Resp.

7. The Seniors forensic Dispute—Which is preferable the Polity of the American Republic, or that of the British Monarchy at its best Estate?

I appointed for Qu<sup>r</sup> Day Crocker Lat Orat., Lovett Eng. Orat., Dana, Noyes, Root, Williams, Eng. Dial.

8. Read the Trial of Major Jn<sup>o</sup> Andre æt. 29, Adjutant Gen. of the Brit. Army. He was born in Geneva, settled at Grenada, where he has a Mother & 2 Sisters.

Sept. 21, in the Night came ashore from the Vulture under Haverstraw Mountain, on Neutral Ground, & brought ashore by Mr. Joshua Smith (B<sup>f</sup> to Chief Just. Smith of N York), & had an Interview on shore with Gen. Arnold who contrary to Intentions & Stipul<sup>a</sup> carried him to Joshua Smiths house. The Boat in w<sup>o</sup> Smith brot Andre ashore *carried no Flag*.

22, In the Even<sup>g</sup> he passed Kings ferry.

23, Nine o'clock in the morning taken at Tarry Town by Jn<sup>o</sup> Paulding, David Williams, & Isaac Van Wert, Militia men, who tho' offered a high Reward refused to release him, but carried him to L<sup>t</sup> Col. Jamison—who discovered the Papers on him & dispatched



an Express to Gen Wash. then at Hartford, which did not overtake the General till

24. Monday. Gen. Wash. left Hartford Sat<sup>r</sup> morn<sup>g</sup>.

25. About Ten o'clock A.M., G. Arnold received a Letter at Robinson's House advis<sup>g</sup> that a Spy was taken up. This 48 hours after. Upon w<sup>c</sup> Arnold made off, 2 h. before G. Wash. Arrival.

At Noon G. Wash. arrived at Arnolds Qu<sup>rs</sup> and soon after received the Express.

29. His Trial before a Board of General Officers.

Oct. 2<sup>d</sup> Noon executed æt. 26. [Truly æt. 29. For in a Letter of his dated Oct 3, 1769 I find he speaks of himself to a Lady "as a poor Novice of eighteen." So born 1751. But whether at Clapton in England or at Geneva, I dont find.]

#### PRINCIPAL OFFICERS IN THE ALLIED ARMY AT RH. ISLD.

as I received them from M. Gen. de Chattelux.

Commander in Chief Newport Rh. Isld. Oct. 10. 1780. Count of ROCHAMBEAU  
Lieut. General

#### Major Generals

- |                               |                                                   |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|
| 1. The Baron of VIOSMENIL     | Adjutant                                          |
| 2. The Chevalier de CHATELLUX | also Adjutant Gen.                                |
| 3. The Viscount of VIOSMENIL  |                                                   |
| 4. DeBeville                  | Brig Gen. and Qu <sup>r</sup> M <sup>r</sup> Gen. |

#### Colonels

#### Aids de Camp

- |                                          |                                             |
|------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| * Count Deux Ponts                       | Count of Fersennes                          |
| * Marquis Laval                          | Count of Damas                              |
| Viscount Rochambeau (Son of the General) | Chevalier de Lametts &c                     |
| * Count Custine                          | M. Dumas D.Q.G.                             |
| * Viscount of Noailles                   | Du Bachè Dep. Adj. Gen.                     |
| * Count of St' Mermes                    | M. Montesquieu Grandson of Author           |
| Count of Charlus                         | of Sp <sup>t</sup> of Laws                  |
| * Duke de Lauzon of the Horse            | De Sibbille Sec <sup>y</sup> to the General |

#### The Admiral—DE TOURNAY

\* have regts.

- 4 Regiments 5 or 6000 : probably 3500 Troops.
- 1 Bourbonnois
  - 2 Soissonnois
  - 3 Saintonge
  4. Deux Ponts, German
  5. Legion of Horse—Duke de Lauzon a fine officer

9. Prof. Strong had no Lecture yesterday : nor did the Corpor<sup>a</sup> expect that he should exhibit many Lectures for the present & until they shall be able to reward him. This Afternoon I began the III<sup>d</sup> Series of my Lectures in Eccl. History, viz. of the American Churches—beginn<sup>g</sup> with N. Engl<sup>d</sup>.

[Rec<sup>d</sup> Lett. from Mr. Fitch of 6<sup>th</sup> Instant wherein he accepts the Tutorship.]

10. On 19<sup>th</sup> of Oct. the Victory of Gen. Van Ranslear over Sir Jn<sup>n</sup> Johnson at the Fox Mills Tryon County. The Action lasted three Qu<sup>rs</sup> of an hour.

A Lett. dated Bennington Oct 22<sup>d</sup> says the Enemy in three Divisions of 1000 each made a Descent at the same time at the northward—I. on Mohawk River under Johnson. II. Another crossed from Onion River tow<sup>ds</sup> Connecticutt River which had burned Royalstown & Sharon, & ruined 100 families. III. or Middle Division then at Castletown. These last are said to be routed by Gen. Ethan Allen at Skeensboro'. Other Accounts speak of the parties as 500 & 800. It was doubtless intended that these Forces should have met the British Army at Albany after taking West Point. The Enemy have made a vast Exertion with their Indian Allies—& have made a Descent & vigorous Impression upon the Wilderness Frontiers very extensively especially from Lake Champlain to beyond the Ohio where great Mischief has been done to the Annoyance of the new settlem<sup>ts</sup> on the West parts of Virginia.

We have Report that Gen. Lesley with a Division sailed from N York last m<sup>o</sup> & in        days anchored in Cheseapeake about 25<sup>th</sup> Oct. last—to land in Virginia & pervade the Territory thro' N<sup>c</sup> Carolina & make a Junction with the Kings Troops under L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis in S<sup>c</sup> Carolina.

On the first of Nov. Inst. & night preced<sup>g</sup> there was a very severe N.E. Storm thro' N. Engl<sup>d</sup> at least, attended with Snow—at N. Haven perhaps half a foot—at Litchfld knee deep—at Boston “a greater quantity than has been known for many years at so early a Period.” . . .

At the Commencement at Dartm<sup>n</sup> Coll. 20<sup>th</sup> Sept. Col. Wheelock voluntarily resigned the Presidency, and was immediately elected & reestablished President by the Trustees. I received Nov. 5 a Letter from him dated 25<sup>th</sup> Oct. informing that they had conferred an honorary Degree upon me.

Undergraduates present Nov. 10. 1780.

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| Seniors . . . 18 | [Nov. 15                       |
| Juniors . . . 20 | 23                             |
| Soph. . . . 39   | 20                             |
| Freshm. . . 51   | 41                             |
|                  | 52                             |
| Total            | 128 present + 26 absent = 153. |
|                  | 136 present<br>17 absent]      |

11. An Embark<sup>a</sup> from N. York under Gen. Leslie has arrived into Chesapeake & about 28<sup>th</sup> Oct. landed at Portsmouth in Virginia. Probably designed to cross overland thro' N<sup>o</sup> Carolina & joyn Ld. Cornwallis & his Army in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. To facilitate & cooperate with this they had corrupted a Virginia Colonel Ross to their Interest. But Providence wonderfully detects. Lately he was taken upon suspicion & there was found upon him a Brig<sup>a</sup> General's Commission from the British with Blank Brit. Commissions for a Tory Brigade; he had provided Arms for the Convention or Burgoyne Troops there, who were to take Arms & joyn Lesly.

This Even<sup>g</sup> fell a Lunar Eclipse, which we observed . . . .

12. Ldsdy. Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> preached all day upon Rev. iv, ii. The Subject, the Works of Creation. Reading the Lives of eminent Divines by Melchior Adam . . . .

13. Seniors disputed—Primum Adam Peccatum Posteris suis imputatur. Baldwin Resp.—I have ordered the Junior Class to recite in Cicero de Orat. at noon to the Professor of Div<sup>y</sup>, at IV P. M. in Algebra to Mr. Tutor Atwater, & to myself in Philosophy in the morning, until Mr. Fitch Tutor Elect shall come. There was a Consociation holden at Cheshire last week upon Mr. Foot.

14. The Seniors forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>—Whether the world has existed from Eternity? Gen. Ethan Allen in Vermont has made a Truce with the Enemy on the Frontiers during & for the Exch<sup>a</sup> of Prisoners.

15. Prayed & dined with the Judges of the Court. Hon. Col<sup>o</sup> Root of Hartf<sup>d</sup> a Delegate going on to Congress visited me and we had much Convers<sup>a</sup> on Persons in G. Brit. hold<sup>g</sup> by grant or Devise Estates in America.

Received a Letter from my son Ezra in Vermont dated 7<sup>th</sup> Inst. inform<sup>g</sup> that the Case of Vermont came before Congress in September: That finally N. Hampshire withdrew her claim least if



granted it should transfer the seat of Gov<sup>t</sup> to the Connect. River : that N. York also withdrew their Cause from Congress, to enforce their Claim by their own Authority.

Mr. Baldwin (quondam Tutor) Monday last informed me that Gen. Lincoln lately in Camp gave a Description of a new horizontal Mill carried with a small stream of Water in use (as Mr. B. understood<sup>d</sup>) in Carolina. If so—Quære, whether Kelsey the original Inventor ?

. . . . . I exhibited my Lect. on Ecc. Hist<sup>y</sup> in the Chapel. Professor Strong had no Lecture yesterday.

18. This Afternoon I resumed my private theological Lecture in the Coll. Library for 8 or 10 Students in Divinity, both Graduate & Undergrad. The subject was, *Justific<sup>o</sup> by A<sup>i</sup> imputed Right, received by Faith*. Three of them read Dissertations on the subject of their own composition ; and then I discoursed upon it. I had one of the Seniors come to discourse with me this day upon Spiritual Soul concerns. And it gives me pleasure to find sundry of the Scholars under serious Impressions and Awakenings in Religion. May Gd pour down his Spirit into all their hearts. At Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers in the Chapel, I expounded the Savoy Confession of Faith as usual on Saturday Evening. The Chapel very attentive.

19. Ldsdy. I preached at Mr. Edwards' meet<sup>g</sup> A.M. Ps. xxxiv, 7—and P.M. Gal. ii. 10, he being absent on a Journey . . . .

20. The Seniors Disputation—*Sui ipsius Fœlicitas non est ultimus finis agendi*.—Channing Resp. Yesterday my Polly æt. 13 $\frac{1}{4}$  finished reading thro' the Bible four times.

21. Seniors forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>—Whether our personal Happiness ought to be the ultimate End of Action ? This Evening I began to read the College Customs publickly in the Chapel. They were digested into order by President Clap A.D. 1750.

22. Professor Williams<sup>1</sup> is returned from Penobscot, where found the solar Eclipse of 27<sup>th</sup> not quite total as he expected from his Calculation ; but it was nearly so, & the remnant of a Thread of Light was disjoyned into little pieces and drops of liquid Light, so as to play wonderfully. In the Middle of the Eclipse the Thermometer fell ten Degrees, & Jupiter & Venus were visible as well as Lyra & other fixt stars. The British Enemy posted there, just permitted the observation, but were not very kind in assisting. Professor W<sup>ms</sup> went in a Flag from Boston . . . . After Even<sup>g</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Williams, of Harvard College.

Prayers I read in the Chapel a philosophical Dissertation of Dr Hamilton upon Fluidity, resolv<sup>s</sup> it not into the sphericity of Corpuscles, but their Repellencies.

This day I distributed above 20 Doll. worth of Books being Lat. & Greek Classics to Atwater &c. of the Senior Class, & to Honeyw<sup>d</sup> of the Jun. Class, in full of their part of Dean Berkeleys Præm. for Declamations on May 7, 1779.

23. I exhibited my Ecclesiastical Lecture. Reading Dr. Huntington's Letters on New Divinity. Spent the Evening in Converse with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Farrand & Mr. Tutor Baldwin upon a variety of subjects as forming a Connect. Acad. of Sciences. [Professor Dagget yesterday noon taken with a dangerous internal Hemorrhage of Blood by Vomiting & Stool; very dangerous.]

24. Atwater, a Senior Sophister brought me his View of the Aur. Bor. as it appeared before day 20<sup>th</sup> Instant. This day at Noon the first of my know<sup>s</sup> of Dr Daggett's Illness. I visited him & while with him, he discharged by vomiting above a pint of Blood at one time. I visited him again in the Even<sup>s</sup> & sat with him till IX o'clock: & then sent 2 Sen. Soph. to watch with him.

25. At a little after midnight this morning (by my watch XII 20') I was called up by one of the Watchers inform<sup>s</sup> that Dr Daggett was dying. I got up, hastened to dress myself & went over to College & awaked the Tutors Mess<sup>rs</sup> Atwater & Goodrich, & took them with me & went to the Professors House.<sup>1</sup> But he was dead before we got there. He expired about a quarter after Twelve at Midnight. He was choaked up with Blood. Before I left him at IX he began to be a little flighty; & the watchers informed me that he was soon out of his head or delirious & continued so till he died. He was born at Attleboro Sept. 8, 1727 & is the first of Eight Children of his parents that have died. He graduated at Yale College 1748. About [Sep. 18] 1751, he settled in the ministry at Smithtown L. Isl<sup>d</sup>. In 1755 he was elected Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> in this College, & was inaugurated in s<sup>d</sup> office March 4 1756. In Oct. 1766 He was appointed Presid<sup>t</sup> pro Temp. upon President Claps Resignation, & continued so till April 3, 1777. And from 1755 to his Death for 25 years has officiated as Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> or rather Minister of the College Church, for

<sup>1</sup> The house built for the use of the Professor of Divinity in 1757-58 was in the grounds now occupied by the Medical School in York street. A view of the house is given in Kingsley's *Yale College*, i, 94.

he usually preached only on Ldsdy & seldom lectured on week days.

26. Ldsdy. Mr. Senior Tutor Atwater preached in the Chapel at my Request all day. A.M. Mat. vi. 33. P.M. Heb. ii. 3. I notified Thanksgiving 7<sup>th</sup> Dec. and also the Sacr<sup>t</sup> next Ldsdy.

27. This Afternoon the Funeral of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Dr Daggett was attended with a decent & honorable Solemnity in the following manner : " An Academic Procession was formed consisting of the Governors & Officers of the College, the residentiary Graduates & one hundred & fourty Undergraduates : which first moved from the College Chapel to the Professor's House, where receiv<sup>d</sup> & accompanying the Mourners, they were joyned in the Procession by the neighbor<sup>d</sup> Ministers, civil Auth<sup>r</sup>, Gent. of liberal Education, & the other respectable Inhabitants of both sexes, & thus returned to the College with the Corps, which was brought into the Chapel. But this being too small for the numerous Assembly, the Procession moved again & went to the Rev. Mr. Whittelsey's Meetinghouse where divine service was performed. This began with an Anthem taken out of the 7<sup>th</sup> Chapter of Job : after which a Prayer was made by the Rev. Warham Williams, and a sermon was preached by myself from Job xxx, 23. After this a funeral Oration in Latin was delivered by Sir Barnet one of the Bachelors of Arts ; & the Solemnity was closed by singing the *funeral Thought*. The Procession then went to the Grave, & deposited the Corps, and then returned to the House of Mourning, having paid the last Tribute of Respect to the Remains of a Gentleman, who had been long distinguished in the Instruction & Government of the College." Extracts from the printed acc<sup>o</sup>.

At this Funeral, the Corps was carried by twelve Senior Sophisters ; there were six Ministers Pall Bearers viz. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Woodbridge, Whittelsey, Williams, Street, Trumbull & Williston. Of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> there were present only Mr. W<sup>ms</sup> & myself ; I had sent for Mr. Goodrich but he did not come. There were present ten or a dozen Ministers and a very great Concourse of People—the Procession was the longest & the Funeral the largest, I think, that I ever saw.

Dr. Daggett was born at Attleboro Sept. 8, 1727, the same year that I was born in. He was a learned Divine in positive Divinity, but not of extensive Erudition.

28. The Seniors forensic Dispute—Whether the Scriptures are of



divine Inspiration? or rather whether Christianity is of divine Revelation. The Business of the Professorship of Div<sup>y</sup> now devolves on me for the present: and besides my Hist<sup>y</sup> Lect. I weekly give a public Dissert<sup>a</sup> or two on some philosophical or astronomical subject besides my private or chamber Lecture on Theology every Saturday afternoon. And besides these I attend every day the Recitations of the Senior & Jun. classes in Philosophy, i. e. each one Recit<sup>a</sup> a day. So that I am called to fill the offices of *three Professorships & the Presidency* at the same time. And yet the Corpor<sup>a</sup> keep me in so poor & parsimonious a manner, that domestic cares & the RES ANGUSTÆ DOMI are a heavier Anxiety to me than all my College Cares.

29. I have called a Meet<sup>g</sup> of the Committee of the Corporation on 18<sup>th</sup> Dec. to consult on the occasion of the Vacancy of the Professorship of Div<sup>y</sup>, & when to assemble the Corporation.

30. I gave my Lecture—Hist<sup>y</sup> of the Baptists & Quakers. The whole Senior Class present.

Mr. Noble Everitt, a young Candidate for the Ministry, communicated to me the follow<sup>g</sup> Observ<sup>a</sup> made in New Jersey, Oct. 1779:

“In a clear still day, as I was rid<sup>g</sup> alone, in the Jerseys, I saw a large black Spider mov<sup>g</sup> very slowly over my head. I stopped & viewed it with attention. It was nearly overhead, when I first discovered it. It moved with the wind from East to West, the Wind about ESE. It seemed at its first appearance to be about thirty feet from the Earth suspended by a Web. I viewed the Course from which it came to see if it were possible for it to descend fr. any object higher fr. the Earth than itself. I was convinced it was not possible; for I believe there was no object within a mile any where near the course fr. w<sup>c</sup> the Spider came, that was so high as the Spider. And besides I could clearly discover each end of the Web by which the Spider was suspended, evidently buoyed up only by the Air. The Web *forward* of the Spider seemed to be about fifty or 60 feet long, elevated about 30 degrees from the Spider in the general Course. But about three Quarters of the Way from it to the end, it gradually descended in a circular form so as to form about one fifth part of a circle. That part back of it seemed to be raised about forty five degrees, & to about one third part as long as that forward, & to form about one third part of a Circle. The Web at the Spider seemed to be but *one Cord*, & from it to spread out each way so as to be about two feet wide in the highest part of each arch, & to be in a measure fastened together. And thence forward to each End of the Web (it seemed) to separate into various Branches, the middle ones extending the farthest. The Land to westward gradually ascended; yet the Spiders Web & all (Keeping the same Position) seemed to rise much faster than the Land, as it moved forward with the Wind, till it appeared to be an hundred feet high; tho’ as it went from me I might be deceived as to rising thus. The whole continued in view perhaps five Minutes.”

December.

1. This day Mr. Fitch, Tutor-Elect, arrived in town. I examined him this evening as to his religious Principles & found him sound.

2. This morning in the Chapel after Prayers Mr. Fitch publicly gave his Assent to the Ecclesiastical Constitution of this State & took the Oath of Fidelity to the State; and thereupon I declared him a Tutor of Yale College duly & regularly introduced into Office & ordered the College to render him Obed. & Honor accordingly. Then I gave & committed the Junior Class to Mr. Tutor Atwater, & the Freshmen Class to Mr. Tutor Fitch.<sup>1</sup>

6. Rec<sup>d</sup> Lett. from Mr. Bowdoin of Boston, President of the Amer. Acad<sup>y</sup> of Arts & Sciences, with the Charter of that Society. Also rec<sup>d</sup> Lett. from my Son Ezra in Vermont of 28<sup>th</sup> ult. then no Snow at Westminster. Record<sup>s</sup> Corpor<sup>a</sup> Acts.

7. This day is public Continental Thanksgiving recommended by Congress & authorized in each State by their respective Legislatures. I have also Gov. Chittenden's Proclam<sup>a</sup> for pub. Thanksgiving this day in the State of Vermont, but not as one of the United States, tho' herein they concur with the XIII States. I preached in the College Chapel upon Ps. cxi, 1-3.

8. . . . . This day I selected and received from Professor Daggetts Papers, the College Chh. Records & other College Papers & Books.

10. Ldsdy. I preached in the College Chapel A.M. Micah vi, 6. P.M. Ps. lxxviii, 5. I now began & introduced the custom of *reading the Scripture* after the first Prayer as a part of public Worship, as I did all my Ministry in Newport, Rh. Isld.

Thro' the long suffer<sup>s</sup> & Patience of God I am this day fifty-three years old; being three months younger than D<sup>r</sup> Daggett. Every year gives new Experience of the divine Care & Goodness. Now that I am growing old, the greatest Cares are devolved upon me; not only those of the Presidency & Professorship of Eccl. Hist., but for the present the superadded ones of the Professorship of Divinity. I have great need of the Grace of Jesus. Who is sufficient for these Things? The good Ld. make his Grace sufficient, his Grace & Strength pfect thro' my Weakness. I would begin this year with Gd & commit myself to his holy keeping.

<sup>1</sup> Between four and five pages of the Diary have here been removed—probably by the author.

11. . . . . Departed this Life Ldsdy Dec. 26, 1780, Mr. Robt. Stevens Merch<sup>t</sup> in Newport Rh. Isld. æt. 67. My worthy Friend.

13. Quarter Day at College. The Ladies & Gentlemen filled the Chapel on the Occasion. And at III<sup>n</sup> P.M. the Exercises, which were performed by the Junior Class, began with a

Latin Oration by Crocker.

English Dialogue by Dana, W<sup>ms</sup>, Root, Noyes.

An Anthem.

An English Oration by Crocker.

An Anthem.

14. I exhibited my Ecc. Lect. in the Chapel.

15. Moderate mild weather. A trifle of Snow here & there.

16. I am exceedingly filled with Business. I mean College Affairs. Besides the Care of the Senior Class, I held a theological chamber Lecture this Afternoon, for a select number of Seniors & pious Graduates & Undergraduates (13). In the Even<sup>g</sup> I expounded the Chapter in the Confession of Faith upon the Decrees till VII o'Clock. And I have to preach in the Chapel to morrow. However the service is delightfull to communicate Instruction in divine Knowledge. I have this day had three Exercises above an hour each upon Divinity. This Even<sup>g</sup> I read two of President Claps MS Sermons upon the Trinity.

17. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the College Chapel. A.M. Heb. vii, 19. P.M. Ps. xcvi, 2. And propounded 3 Undergraduates for full Communion. This day I began reading in the Ldsdy Worship in the Chapel Congregation in Course, Isaiah in the foren. & Acts in Afternoon.

18. . . . . It is reported that Gen. Arnold with a Corps is about to visit this Coast.

19. Seniors forensic Disputation—Whether, Stating Acts are beneficial or prejudicial to a State?

In a Letter of the 25<sup>th</sup> ult. the Rev. Nathan Strong of Hartford, requested me to draught a Charter for the Incorporation of a proposed Acad<sup>y</sup> of Sciences to be laid before the Gen. Assembly then about to sit at Hartfd. I sent him a Draught and also a printed Copy of the Act for incorporat<sup>g</sup> the Mass. Acad<sup>y</sup> of Arts & Sciences which passed Mass. Assembly May 4, 1780. By a Letter I rec<sup>d</sup> yesterd<sup>y</sup> of 16<sup>th</sup> Inst. he informs me that upon application to the Members he found unexpected Obstructions in the Assembly aris<sup>g</sup> from a Jealousy lest the Acad<sup>y</sup> shd become constitutionally



connected with College. However at length the follow<sup>g</sup> Resolve passed both Houses last Week.

“Resolved by this Assembly that Oliver Elseworth, Jn<sup>o</sup> Treadwell, and James Hillhouse Esqrs. be and they are hereby appointed a Committee to draw up a Plan for forming & incorporating a Literary Society in this State for the Promotion of Arts & Sciences, and lay the same for Consideration before this Assembly in May next.”

A true Copy of Record, Examined

By GEORGE WYLLYS Secy.”

[Connect. Acad<sup>y</sup> Arts & Sciences voluntarily formed May 1786, not by Assembly.]

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Williams & Goodrich as a Committee of the Corporation met here this day, to consult upon the Expediency of assembling the Corpor<sup>a</sup> to elect a *Professor of Divinity* in the room of D<sup>r</sup> Daggett. We accordingly appointed a meeting to be held here by the Leave of Providence on Tuesday 23<sup>d</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> next.

Mr. Doolittle tells me there has been made at his Powder Mill<sup>1</sup> in N. Haven, *Eighty Thousd Pounds of Powder* since the Commencem<sup>t</sup> of this War.

20. Making Entries in the College Records. Writing & sending off Letters for calling the Corporation. After Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers I exhibited a philosophical Lecture in the Chapel.

21. Received Letters from Mr. Moody, Dummer School Master, inclos<sup>g</sup> from President Langdon his Resign<sup>a</sup> of the Presidency, with the Accept<sup>a</sup> of this Resign<sup>a</sup> by the Overseers of Harvard College dated Sept. 13, 1780. He at the same Time received great Testimonials of his Learning & Piety. He has a Call to settle again in the Work of the Ministry at Rowley. This Morn<sup>g</sup> I sent a Letter to him & to Dr. Chauncy by Mr. Woodward.

22. A Snow Storm. Yesterday P.M. I gave my Hist. Lecture. .

23. On 22<sup>d</sup> Nov. the British Fleet sailed from Chesepeak Bay. This Aft. I gave a Theological Chamber Lecture in the College Library to a number of solid & serious Students.

24. Lordsday. Mr. Baldwin (quondam Tutor) preached all day in the Chapel. A.M. Gal. iii, 10. P.M. Rom. viii, 3, two excellent Sermons. Very mild weather. Present 108 Undergraduates.

25. . . A rainy Christmas. Little Snow on the ground. Therm. 40.

26. Whether VERMONT is, and of Right ought to be a separate & Independent State? Yes. Seniors Dispute.

I have three hundred MS. Sermons of Professor Daggetts in my hands; and these are all the Family could find after his Death.

<sup>1</sup> In the present village of Westville.

He began to sermonize A.D. 1749—always wrote them out at large & numbered them. By June 27, 1755 his number had arisen to 160 upon a Sermon on Jer. xvii, 11. In the fall of 1755 he removed to Yale College, where he began a new Numeration of Sermons he made here. And by Aug. 2, 1761 the numeration had arisen to 283. I judge that about the year 1761 he left off steady & weekly sermonizing; for Feb. 13, 1763 his Sermon on Luke xvi, 25 was numbered but 288. I think 288 the highest number I have observed. He made them so seldom afterwards that he left off numbering. Consid<sup>s</sup> Vacancies, he would be called to preach at College p<sup>h</sup>ps 40 Sabbaths a year at most; one quarter might be supplied by Exchanges &c. so that 60 or 70 Sermons p ann. would suffice. And thus 280 or 300, & especially 450 would be an ample Supply of the four years Revolution. [Afterwards I rec<sup>d</sup> 85 Sermons more.]

27. Professor Strong gave a philosophical Lecture in the Chapel upon the Investigation of the Sun's Parallax by the Transit of Venus. In the Even<sup>g</sup> he communicated several philosophical Matters in Conversation. This day I opened the Superior Court with Prayer; & dining with the Judges conversed with them upon the proposed Academy of Sciences in this State. . . . .

28. Very cold. Fahrenheits Therm<sup>o</sup> in open Air this Morn<sup>g</sup> stood at fifteen degrees above Cypher; & ascended only to 20 the highest Altitude of the day. It is at times indeed much Colder; but the season for the fourt'night past has been very moderate & even mild; so that the present quick Transition to intense Cold is more severely felt than ordinary. There is however no Snow upon the Ground in New Haven.

The Hon. Henry Laurens Esq. late President of Congress having been appointed a Minister Plenipotentiary sailed for Europe & last Fall in his Passage thither was taken & carried into England. In Oct. last he was in London waited upon by three Secretaries of State, & upon refusing to submit to any Interrogatories or Examin<sup>a</sup> was immed<sup>y</sup> committed to the Tower. Glorious!

In October last Mr. Tutor Lockwood visited Jersey & Philad<sup>a</sup> Colleges, & on his Return gave me the following account.

#### JERSEY COLLEGE.

President Witherspoon. Mr. Smith & his Son Tutor & Prof. of Mor. Phil. Mr. Riddle Tutor. 17 or 18 Scholars Undergrads. besides the Grammar School.

PHILAD<sup>A</sup> COLLEGE.

Provost Ewing's Salary £500 Silver Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Money = £400 L. M.; also Minister of a Congregation in the city.

Vice Provost Rittenhouse £400, also Secret<sup>y</sup> of Pensylv<sup>a</sup>.

Professors £350 each. Tutors & Ushers £150 to £200 each.

Only two Classes, Senior 8 scholars—Freshmen 8. Total 16. So this University consists of sixteen Undergraduates. But D<sup>r</sup> Ewing claims a Superintend<sup>y</sup> of the City Schools comprehending the Charity School, English & Latin Grammar Schools, the German, Dutch &c. About three hundred Boys & Girls, & all Whites & Blacks.

I exhibited my Lecture on Ecc. Hist<sup>y</sup>—Compil<sup>a</sup> of Cambridge Platform, with Continu<sup>a</sup> of Biography of the American Fathers.

29. Therm<sup>o</sup> 13 above 0 this Morn<sup>g</sup>. At 11<sup>h</sup> P.M. 36.

30. A fine mild day; Therm. 36 & circa all day. I held my Theological Chamber Lecture in the Library to 15 or 20 Students. In the Even<sup>g</sup> expounded the Confession of Faith in the Chapel; and afterwards discoursed with three of the Students upon spiritual concerns & examining their spiritual, as they are to morrow to make profession of Religion publicly.

31. Ldsdy. A fine mild day. The Thermometer 40 to 44 all day. I preached in the College Chapel, A.M. Acts xxvi, 28. P.M. Jn<sup>o</sup> xiv, 21. Admitted into the College Chh. Reuben Parmele, Timothy Lankton, of the Senior Class, and Stephen Weed of the Sophomore Class. I notified the Sacrament next Lords Day. . . .

Ld. Cornwallis Commander in Chief of the Southern Division of the British Army, wrote to the Ministry an Acc<sup>o</sup> of his complete Victory over the Rebels near Cambden in S<sup>o</sup> Carolina, on the 16 Aug. in a Lett. dated Cambden Aug 21, 1780. . . . .

Return of British Rank & file, 213 Wounded 64 Killed 16 Aug.

Return of Brit. Troops night of 15<sup>th</sup> Aug. Officers 295. Rank & file 1944. Of the Rank & file

|                                                                    |                       | Wounded. | Killed. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------|----------|---------|
| Light Companies . . . .                                            | 129 of w <sup>e</sup> | 5        | 6       |
| 23 <sup>d</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup> . . . . .                         | 261                   | 17       | 6       |
| 33 <sup>d</sup> D <sup>o</sup> . . . . .                           | 269                   | 72       | 17      |
| 1 <sup>st</sup> Battal., 71 <sup>st</sup> Reg <sup>t</sup> . . . . | 114                   | 22       | 4       |
| 2 <sup>nd</sup> D <sup>o</sup> D <sup>o</sup> . . . .              | 94                    | 8        | 4       |
| Legion—Cavalry . . . .                                             | 157                   | 3        | 4       |
| Inf <sup>y</sup> . . . . .                                         | 106                   | 10       | 1       |
| N <sup>o</sup> Car <sup>o</sup> Regt. Tories . . .                 | 223                   | 8        | 3       |
| Irish Volunteers D <sup>o</sup> . . .                              | 300                   | 64       | 17      |



Remark 1. The main body of the British Southern Army not exceeding 12 or 1500 Regulars—certainly not so many left at Charlestown. So in the whole of the Kings Troops in S<sup>o</sup> Div. not *three Thous<sup>d</sup>*. 2. The 23<sup>d</sup> & 33<sup>d</sup> considered as full Reg<sup>ts</sup> & yet not 270 privates each. 3. Curious Delusion to divide a single Reg<sup>t</sup> of about 200 into two Battalions ! 4. The Weight of the Battle came upon the 33<sup>d</sup> & Irish Volunteers.

1781.

January.

1. An exceedingly mild & pleasant New Year's day, no snow upon the ground at New Haven ; the Thermometer in the morning 30, and 45 afternoon, & 42 after three o'clock. A gentle Southern Breeze. The Syllogistic Disputation of the Senior class upon this Thesis—*Justitia Dei Pœnam Peccati requirit*. Gridley Resp. Undergrad. 140 present.

2. Forensic Dispute—Whether Women ought to be permitted to partake in civil Gov<sup>t</sup> Dominion & Sovereignty.

3. I attended Mr. Whittelseys Sacramental Lecture, preached from Heb. vi, 18, on the Promises. After Lecture Mr. Cornel one of the spontaneous Separate Teachers came to converse with me upon Presbyterian Ordination. He wanted to find whether I would assist in ordaining any among the Separates. He very candidly entered into the subject with a mind willing to imbibe the Truth. I told him, I believed that Presb. Ordin<sup>a</sup> only was valid, and that Lay-ordination was unscriptural—& that God had never permitted and never would permit the Instance or Exigence to take place, of Christians on a desolate Isld &c.—that it was not a fact that the Chh. had been necessitated to receive Ordin<sup>a</sup> thro' the corrupt & idolatrous Chh. of Rome which never made a third part of Christendom—that Ordin<sup>a</sup> might be had from the Greek, Armenian, & Coptic Chhs. in the East ; & in the Waldensian & Bohemian Chhs. neither of which are of romish Derivation ;—that just before the Reform<sup>a</sup> the two last were exiled & scattered over Europe & so gave opport<sup>y</sup> to puritan Chhs to have borrowed Ordination from them. Besides Popish additions to the sacerdotal Office do not annihilate the lineal Succession of so much of Character as is derived from Christ. Therefore that the Bps. of the Chh. of Engl<sup>d</sup> who cast off much of this popish addition & the Calvinistic Ministers who cast off more & nearly recovered themselves to the Scriptures, were true Minis-

ters of X & preserved Office Power—which they communicated the first ninety Ministers which came to N. Engld—and they down to the present generation. So that the separate Chhs were not necessitated to set up Lay-ordinations as they did in 1746—unless Providence prevented them by so ordering that Mr. Denison assisted in the first Ordin<sup>a</sup> at Mansfield 1746, whose Ordination I have traced to the Mathers & so to the Bishop of Chester.

In the Evening I finished my Lectures upon the Cyclopædia.

4. This Aft. I attended Mr. Edwds' Sacram<sup>t</sup> Lecture. Then exhibited my eccl. Lect. in the Chapel. Mild Weather. Therm<sup>o</sup> 40, no Snow on the Ground. This Even<sup>s</sup> I received a Letter missive from the Chh. in Stepney to myself & the College Chh. asking us to assist in Council at the Ordination of Mr. Lewis' formerly Tutor of this College, upon 24<sup>th</sup> Instant: & also a Letter from Mr. Lewis asking me to preach the Ordin<sup>a</sup> Sermon. But I return for Answer that I am prevented in Providence, because the Corporation are to convene here the 23<sup>d</sup> Instant.

5. News that Major Humphry attempting to take Gen. Knyp-hausen is himself captivated at New York. [Mistake.] Rain last night. Fog this Morning—very singular weather—the Thermometer 50 by IX<sup>h</sup> Mane, 57 at Noon & 54 or higher in Afternoon—Light Breeze at S.W.—Fair & mild & warm P.M. This day the senior Class finished reciting to me the third Volume of Martins Philosophy; and next begin Locke.

This Even<sup>s</sup> I appointed for March Quarter Day.

Seniors, Wright—English Oration.

Breed—Latin Oration.

Farrand

Smith

I

Welles

I

Williams I

} English Dialogists.

6. Full of College Business, it drawing nigh to Vacation. At XI<sup>h</sup> I heard the Senior Class, as usual for Saturdays, a Recitation in Vincents Exposition of the Catechism; at IV<sup>h</sup> P.M. I attended my Chamber Theological Lecture, the subject, the *true Nature* of the true Love of God; after which held a preparatory conference with the Communicants; at Even<sup>s</sup> Prayers I expounded the Savoy Confession of Faith in the Chapel as usual on Sat<sup>y</sup> Evenings—I

<sup>1</sup> John Lewis (Y. C. 1770). The parish of Stepney, in Wethersfield, is the present town of Rocky Hill.

finished about half after six o'Clock. To morrow we hope to attend the Ordinance of the Lords Supper ; the Good Lord prepare us for a pious & devout Attend<sup>a</sup> upon that holy Ordinance.

7. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the Chapel. A.M. 1 Pet. 24, 25. P.M. Jn<sup>o</sup> vii, 37. After Sermon in the Forenoon, I ordered the whole Congreg<sup>a</sup> to stay, & descended from the Pulpit to the Communion Table, and administered the Lords Supper to the Chh. before the whole Congregation. This was the first time it was ever done in this manner, it being my own Judgment. I hope hereby others may be impressed with the solemnity of this holy Ordinance. The two Senior or fore seats were evacuated & the Communicants took their place there. We have no Deacons of the College Chh. it is so changeable ; & therefore the oldest Graduate present or Undergraduate carries round the Elements of Bread & Wine. Sir Nott<sup>1</sup> carried them to day. Previous to the Administration I publicly notified that any Communicant of other Chhs. occasionally present might freely partake with us. Upon which the two Deacons of Mr. Mathers Chh. (he being absent) & others, removed & took their seats with the Communicants. I then observed to the Chh. that I shd take their silence for a consent that they should be admitted to commune with us. Then I proceeded to consecrate the Elements & having administered the Supper as usual, & sung an hymn I dismissed the Chh. & Congregation with a Blessing.

A decent Solemnity appeared in the Congregation as well as Chh. and I cant but hope we had the Presence of Jesus with us in this holy Ordinance. Communicants present

|            |                         |   |                              |                |
|------------|-------------------------|---|------------------------------|----------------|
|            | Myself                  |   |                              |                |
| Occasional | { Br. Augur             | } | Deacons of Mr. Mather's Chh. |                |
|            | { Br. Gilbert           |   |                              |                |
|            | { Br. Daggett           |   | of                           | D <sup>o</sup> |
|            | { Br. Baldwin           |   | of                           | "              |
|            | Br. Sir Nott            |   |                              |                |
|            | B <sup>rs</sup> Atwater | } |                              |                |
|            | Channing                |   | Cornell                      | } Juniors      |
|            | Lankton                 |   | Willard                      |                |
|            | Parmele                 |   | Hall                         | } Soph. 15.    |
|            | Stebbins                |   | Weed                         |                |

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Nott (Y. C. 1780), then teaching in New Haven and studying theology with the Rev. Jonathan Edwards.



At the close of the Afternoon service I communicated a Letter missive from the Chh of Stepney dated 2<sup>d</sup> Jan<sup>r</sup> asking us to assist in the Ordination late Mr. Tutor Lewis 24<sup>th</sup> Instant. I informed the Brethren that as the Corpor<sup>s</sup> of the College was to meet here 23<sup>d</sup> Inst. I could not go. Brother Tutor Atwater was chosen & appointed Delegate for the Church by a silential Vote as usual. . . .

8. Anima est immortalis . . . . . Hinckley Resp.

Copy of Letter missive.

Jany 2, 1781.

"To the Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stiles & to the Chh at Yale College, Rev<sup>d</sup> & Beloved.

Whereas the Chh & Society of Stepney Parish have invited Mr. Jn<sup>o</sup> Lewis to settle with them in the Work of the Gospel Ministry, to w<sup>o</sup> Invit<sup>s</sup> he hath given an Answer in the affirmative. This is therefore Sir, to desire you personally & the Chh by Delegation to be present & assist in his Ordination. We are Rev<sup>d</sup> & Beloved y<sup>r</sup> B<sup>n</sup> in the Gospel.

|                         |                |                  |
|-------------------------|----------------|------------------|
| JN <sup>O</sup> ROBBINS | ELIAS WILLIAMS | } Chh Committee" |
| TH <sup>O</sup> CURTIS  | MOSES WILLIAMS |                  |

"N. B. The Ord. to be on 24<sup>th</sup> Inst."

9. This day Vacation begins. Present 128 Undergraduates, when dismissed for 3 Weeks Vacation. Yesterday & this day very cold. Therm. 13 last night.

Præses Acad<sup>æ</sup> Yalensis Salutem suo Nomine dici jussit Reverendo D<sup>r</sup> Dentzel à Sacris, fœderato in Exercitu Gallico Rhodiensi in Nov. Angliâ. Quam urbanè quam facetè quamque literatè inter se quondam collocuti sunt apud Novum Portum Rhodium, gratâ Recordatione meminisse juvat. Amore divinissimo JESUM amat uterque divinum; uterque Literaturam amat: amantque ù Familiaritatem & Consortium tum Communioris cujuscunque sacræ piorum omnium, tum Virorum cunctarum gentium Eruditorum. Ideoque Præses, quendam Amicorum ejus, viz. D. Fitch Collegij Yalensis Tutorem sive Philosophiæ Professorem, Amicitia Domini Dentzel amplissimè commendat. Datum ex Ædibus academicis Novo-Portu Connecticutensi Die 9 Januarij Anno Salutis M.DCC. LXXXI.

EZRA STILES Coll. Yal. Præs.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Dentzel is a Lutheran Minister, educated at the University of Jena in Germany, Chaplain to the Prince du Ponts and his German Reg<sup>t</sup> of deux Ponts now in the allied Army at Newport. The only protestant Reg<sup>t</sup> in the French army there. I am psonally acquainted with the Prince who is a Protestant.<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A Journal kept by the Count de Deux-Ponts (Lieutenant Colonel of the regiment commanded by his brother) in 1780-81, was published with notes by Dr. Samuel A. Green at Boston in 1868.

For the first fifty years no Doctorate conferred at Harv. College. In 1692 that in Div<sup>y</sup> conferred upon D<sup>r</sup> Increase Mather. This the only one conferred in 120 or 130 years. In 1768 Jersey Coll. upon the Accession of President Witherspoon began to confer them. Upon this Harvard, Yale & the other Colleges went into the Practice. One Arg<sup>t</sup> used by the Kings Governors & Crown Officers to persuade Harv. Coll. after the Revolution of 1688 to surrender their Charter & ask a new one from the King, was, because the College might then have the Power of conferr<sup>e</sup> the Doctorates, which now they had not. Accordingly a new Charter or Act passed the Mass. Assembly 1692 with enlarged Powers & this of conferr<sup>e</sup> Doctorates among others. As it was of legal Force till the Kings Pleasure was known, so it was not doubted but it would receive the Royal Assent. Before the Expiration this Act of Incorpor<sup>a</sup> was disallowed by the King because it did not admit a Clause for the Visitation of the King or his Governor. In the mean while & during the Act being in Force the Corpor<sup>a</sup> conferred this Doctorate on President Mather. Another Act passed 1697 which before 1700 was also disallowed. In 1700 the Assembly approved the form of a Charter which they consented the College shd. receive from the King—in this the Corporation consisted of a President (D<sup>r</sup> Mather) a Vice President (M<sup>r</sup> Willard) and fifteen Fellows—the Gov. and Council made the *Visitors*. But the King refused this also. However they acted upon it for the present. And as there was a desire that D<sup>r</sup> Mather should retire from the Presid<sup>y</sup>, there was a Vote of the Gen. Assembly in 1701, "*that no man shd act as Presid<sup>e</sup> of the College who did not reside at Cambridge.*" D<sup>r</sup> Mather did not chuse to leave his People at Boston and retired from the Presid<sup>y</sup> Sept. 6, 1701, about two months before Rector Pierson was elected to the Rectorate of Yale College then the Collegiate School at Saybrook. D<sup>r</sup> Mather had been at the Head of Harv. Coll. twenty years includ<sup>e</sup> his four years Absence in Engl<sup>d</sup> from April 7, 1688 to May 14, 1692; and also inclusive of the short Presidency of M<sup>r</sup> Rogers. M<sup>r</sup> Mather was first elected 1681 & moderated at that Commencement, but his Chh. would not part with him. And Apr. 20 1682 Mr. Rogers was elected and died July 1684. After this Mr. Mather was again elected. So that he may be considered as beginning his Presid<sup>y</sup> 1685 & continued in it nominally till 1701. After 1701 Mr. Willard by *Order of Court* officiated as Vice President till his Death Sep. 12,

1707. This Order was before the Kings negative to the Act of 1700. Upon M<sup>r</sup> Will<sup>ds</sup> Death they recurred in 1707 to the College Charter or Act of 1650 confirmed by the Province Charter from the King 1692. On this found<sup>d</sup> President Leverett was established & on this Harv. Coll. has continued ever since. But from this time forward till 1770 it was believed that the Doctorates could not be conferred. And indeed in the Act of 1650 or Charter of Harv. Coll. there is no power given to conferr any Academic Degrees whatever. It was assumed at first as comprehended among other College Powers not particularly defined.

COPY OF D<sup>r</sup> MATHERS DIPLOMA 1692.

"Quum Gradus Academici tam in *Theologia* quam in *Philosophia* pro more Academiarum in *Anglia* conferendi Potestas ab Amplissimo Gubernatore, et a Summa Massachusettensis Curia, secundum serenissimi Regis & Regina<sup>e</sup> *Gulielmi* et *Mariae* illis concessum Diploma, sit nobis commissa; et quoniam Vir Clarissimus D. CRESCENTIUS MATHERUS Collegij-Harvardini in *Nova Anglia* Præses Reverendus, Libros quamplurimos tam Anglicè quam Latinè edidit, omnigena Literatura refertos, Multisque præterea Modis non solum in Linguis et in Artibus Liberalibus peritissimum, verum etiam in S. S. Scripturis et in *Theologia* se ostendit Versatissimum; atque per Studia et Merita vere extraordinaria, non tantum apud *Americanas*, sed et *Europæanas* Ecclesias Commendatissimum se reddidit; Propterea dictum D. CRESCENTIUM MATHERUM Doctorali Cathedra dignum judicamus; Eumque pro Autoritate nobis commissa, S. S. THEOLOGIAE DOCTOREM nominamus ac renunciamus. In cujus Rei Testimonium Academiæ Sigillum hisce Literis affiximus, Nos quorum hic sunt subscripta Nomina. Datum Cantabrigiæ Nov' Anglorum Die Novembris septimo; Annoque Domini Millesimo Sexcentesimo, Nonagesimo Secundo."

10. Rainy day, exceeding Mild for the Season. Ther. 38. Last Week about two Thirds of the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Line left the Continental Army, and marched for Philad<sup>a</sup> to lay their Grievances before Congress. Gen. Wayne endeavored to stop them; but they marched from Morrist<sup>e</sup> to Princet<sup>e</sup> before they halted.

11. Hodie seorsim memet Jejunio contuli Præcibusque privatim orandis, ut a numine summo Sapientiam et Sanctam Directionem impetrarem, de gravi illa Re et ad Academiæ Emolumentum maxime attinenti, Electione S. S. Theologiæ in eadem Professoris: meum ut ψηφισμα pro eminenti quodam Theologo docto pio eruditoque daretur academico mox celebrando,—& לנבי & Animi mei κνησις Mentisque Sociorum Reverendorum, de hac Re gravi ita vi Superum אלהים lumineque dirigentur, ut omnia ad Dei Gloriam eveniant.



In conversation many Names have been mentioned. We look abroad indifferently into all the States. These have been most frequently spoken of, tho' some of them always with the remark subjoyned that they would not answer, and yet all are learned & pious.

## Graduated

|      |                                                  |
|------|--------------------------------------------------|
| 1745 | The Rev. John Searl                              |
| 1750 | Rev. W <sup>m</sup> Gordon D.D.                  |
| 1752 | Rev. Elizur Goodrich                             |
| 1759 | Rev. Benjamin Trumbull                           |
| 1762 | Rev. Jos. Huntington D.D.                        |
| 1768 | Rev. Isaac Lewis                                 |
| 1769 | Rev. John Keep                                   |
| 1769 | Rev. Nathan Strong                               |
| 1767 | { Rev. Samuel Wales                              |
| 1770 |                                                  |
| 1772 |                                                  |
|      | Mr. Abraham Baldwin, quondam Tutor. <sup>1</sup> |

12. Very mild Weather. Yesterday the Therm<sup>o</sup> was 50; and this day 45. The Frost out of the ground. The Ministry purpose to send over 9 or Ten Thous<sup>d</sup> Troops to America this Spring, as Gen. Clinton has written to them for Reinforcem<sup>t</sup> or to be recalled.

13. Have had much Convers<sup>a</sup> with several Gentlemen upon a Professor of Divinity. M<sup>r</sup> Buckminster's Character has been fully canvassed. He is considered as one of the first scholars; very good in the Languages, excellent in Math. Nat. Phil. & Astron. and in History & the Belles Lettres—a good Divine and surpassing most in Pulpit Oratory, that he had a particular & very singular Faculty of command<sup>g</sup> the Attention of Scholars in his Expositions on Vincent & occasional preaching in the Chapel—very fervent & affectionate in his Manner, & of pious & venerable Manners, being the Gentleman and the Christian.

In the City of Rome from 24 June 1779 to 24 June 1780 the Number of Births was 5218, Burials 7181. And by a Census or Numer<sup>a</sup> of the City made 24 June 1780 it appeared that the City then contained 155,184 Inhabitants,—of which were

|                      |                       |
|----------------------|-----------------------|
| 36,485 Housekeepers  | 1065 Students         |
| 3,847 Monks          | 1470 Alms-poor        |
| 2827 Secular Priests | 7 Negroes             |
| 1910 Nuns            | 52 Persons not Romans |

Rem. 1. Deducting the Ecclesiastics the Housekeepers about the

<sup>1</sup> Four pages of manuscript have here been removed, undoubtedly by the author.

common proportion of the Inhabitants. 2. Fewer female Religious than Male. 3. 'This City's Inhab. but  $\frac{3}{4}$  the N<sup>o</sup> of Inhab. in Connecticut where about 200 Ministers suffice—but in Rome 2800. Now suppose the apostolic Police or Constitution for each Chh was that it should have an Eldership of ten or a dozen persons, the Name of the first of which was Bishop, as Mark established in the Congregational Chh in Alexandria, & St. Patrick in the V<sup>th</sup> Cent<sup>y</sup> established for about 350 Congregational Chhs in Irel<sup>d</sup>—and again which Form as to the Image of it still subsists in the Vestry of the Chh. of Engl<sup>d</sup>:—and suppose this still subsists in Rome, the 10 or 12 Ecclesiastics to each Chh would make 2800 for 200 Congregations of 700 Souls each. Now in N. Engl<sup>d</sup> every Congreg<sup>a</sup> has a Committee of 8, 10 or dozen: and was it the usage to ordain these by Laying on of Hands & so call them Clergy or Ecclesiastics, this would make 2 or 3000 for Connecticut and 7 or 8000 for a Million of People. However all of these are subsisted by the Public in the Romish, Whereas only one to a Chh or one Tenth of the N<sup>o</sup> is subsisted by the public in Protestant Chhs. Rem. 4. The Poor are but one in 100; whereas when Bp. Burnet was in Rome the last Cent<sup>y</sup> the Poor were 1 in 30. The Poor in N. Engl<sup>d</sup> may be 1 in 150. However I believe the Alms poor in Rome are but a small part of the poor of that City. 5. It is wonderful there shd be but 7 Negroes there: & more so that there shd be only 52 Foreigners. Doubtless I do not understand this. For certain there are Thousands Residentiaries in Rome not Romans, probably 5200 Persons. I rode to Meriden.

14. Ldsdy. I preached all day at Meriden for the Rev. Mr. Hubbard. A.M. Acts xvi, 28. P.M. Tit. ii, 11-13.

16. Visited D<sup>r</sup> Dana at Wallingford. Last Thanksgiving day he made a public Resignation of his Ministry there, on account of deficient Support & supposed Alienation of his People. But they have since manifested such a friendly Disposition, that I think the matter will be healed.

17. I returned to New Haven.

YALE COLLEGE Jany. 12, 1781.

HONORED SIR:

A fraternal Communic<sup>a</sup> among the public Seats of Literature throughout the United States, will ever be peculiarly agreeable to me. I am happy in finding the same sentiment possessing your Breast from the Letter you was so obliging as to send me, wherein you communicated the Honor done me unexpectedly, by the Honorable and Reverend Board of Trustees of Dartmouth

College, in their conferring upon me the Doctorate in Divinity. For this Testimony of unmerited Respect, be pleased, Sir, yourself to accept my Thanks ; and also at the next Meeting of your venerable Body, to communicate and lay before them my grateful Acknowledgments, and to assure them the very great Sincerity with which I shall ever wish the Emolument & Glory of Dartmouth College. I am, Dear Sir,

Your affectionate Brother &

Most Obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

EZRA STILES.

Hon. Mr. John Wheelock  
President of Dartmouth Coll.

18. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Parsons of Amherst died lately.

19. Still no Snow on the Ground here. A Man here left Deerfield last Week—Snow there knee deep, good Sleighing till he came to Suffield, no Snow this side, from Windsor to Meriden very bad travell<sup>e</sup>, thence to N. Haven good. . . .

20. My Daughter Kezia came in from viewing the starry Heavens the other Even<sup>e</sup> & immediately pen<sup>d</sup> these among other poetical Lines.

“ The Stars, that rule the Night, in order roll,  
And speak the Majesty of nature's soul.”

21. Ldsdy. Rainy. Therm<sup>o</sup> 42, Wind W. I preached all day for Mr. Mather. A.M. Ephes. ii, 22. P.M. 2 Cor. iv, 3, 4. This day afternoon the Deacons carried round a Contribution Box in Mr. Mathers Meet<sup>s</sup> for the first time—designing to do it every Lordsday. The first constant Ldsdy contribution for support<sup>s</sup> public Worship in Connecticut ; altho' it has long been practiced in Boston, Newp<sup>s</sup>, Portsm<sup>s</sup> & other populous Places.

In the Even<sup>e</sup> came on a very splendid Aur<sup>o</sup> Borealis. . . . .

22. Read<sup>s</sup> Dr. Huntington's Letters. Snow P.M.

23. Terrible Snow Storm last night : a Hurricane which seemed to carry all before it. Ther. 35. This Afternoon the Storm abated. The Corporation coming in.

24. Convened besides myself 7 of the Fellows viz.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Warham Williams  
Rev<sup>d</sup> John Trumbull  
Rev. Stephen Johnson  
Rev. Nathan<sup>l</sup> Taylor  
Rev. Elizur Goodrich  
Rev. Moses Mather  
Rev<sup>d</sup> Enoch Huntington.



Absent Mess<sup>rs</sup> Eliph<sup>a</sup> W<sup>ms</sup>, Lockwood & Pitkin undoubtedly on account of the stormy Weather. After serious & mature Deliberation it was judged necessary to proceed to the Choice of a Professor of Divinity in the Room of Professor Daggett.<sup>1</sup> Whereupon we conversed upon, particularly the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> *Goodrich* one of the Fellows, D<sup>r</sup> Bellamy, D<sup>r</sup> Gordon, Rev. Mr. *Haven* of Dedham, Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Heminway of Welles, *Buckminster* of Portsmouth, Searl of , Edw<sup>ds</sup> of N. Haven, Trumbull of N<sup>o</sup> Haven, Keep of Sheffield, Lewis of , Strong of Hartford, Williams of E. Hartfd. one of the Fellows, D<sup>r</sup> Huntington of Coventry, Rev. Mr. Wales of Milford & late Mr. Tutor Baldwin, Mr. Warh. W<sup>ms</sup>, Mr. Enoch Hunt. one of the Fellows. After much Convers<sup>a</sup> we came to Mess<sup>rs</sup> *Wales*, *Buckminster*, *Baldwin*. These 3 seemed to be competitors in all our minds. Mr. Strong was also much spoken of, as well as Mr. Haven. It then became a Quest. whether to seek an ordained Minister, as the Character of such an one would be more extensively established. It was considered that both M<sup>r</sup> Wales & Buck. were firmly seated in the Affections of their People—that it would require Negotiation & phps. an Advance of £200 to compensate for Settlement & for Removal; & it was considered that tho' Mr. Baldwin is young (æt. 26 in Sept. last) yet his Reputation was exceed<sup>s</sup> good. At length we tried our minds, which of the three we found ourselves inclined to; I put the question as I recollect to the Gentlemen in the follow<sup>o</sup> order as they then sat together, Hunt., Taylor, Johnson, Trumb., Mather, W<sup>ms</sup>, Goodrich,—and they unanimously said Baldwin. It was then concluded to converse still further upon the matter, it being of very solemn Importance to the Interests of the College & the Churches, altho' it was now become evident how our minds would center. It was considered that Mr. Wales was the superior classical Scholar & well read in all the Sciences, besides being

<sup>1</sup> Among Dr. Stiles's papers is a letter from the Rev. Dr. Charles Chauncy, of Boston, written in response to one asking for advice as to what should be done at this meeting. He says:

As to the dissolution of the College Church and congregation, I have only this to say, that I much disapproved the conduct of President Clap, who had the chief, I may say, the only hand in this institution. I y<sup>a</sup> thot. & am still of the same mind, that it was done, not from pure Xtian principles, but w<sup>th</sup> sinister views, w<sup>ch</sup> if it was proper, I could particularly mention.

This is, so far as known, the only evidence that Dr. Stiles had contemplated the disbanding of the College Church.

excellent in Divinity & of no noble Elocution—& of consummate Modesty ; it was not doubted but that he would make an excellent Professor—my Mind was very well towards him ; Mr. Buckm. was not equal to him in the Languages altho' very good, yet he surpassed him in Math. & Philosophy & the belles Lettres—his Div<sup>y</sup> not quite so clear—very florid in his Elocution, & greatly ambitious to figure ; Mr. Bald. was equal to both collectively as to the Languages, Philosophy, belles Lettres, & History & the Sciences in general, modest, prudent, judicious, well accepted at College, his Elocution good, & tho' young in the study of Div<sup>y</sup> yet judged sound & orthodox particularly by Mr. Huntington who had lately heard him preach two sermons upon the topical subjects of human *Depravity* & the *Atonement*—and as he was studious from his youth up & hopefully would continue to be so, it was expected that he would become the learned Theologian. It was also considered that he had a very happy Talent in governing Scholars & would conciliate & command Respect & become a venerable Character. The Board also went into the Views of the Public—& we inquired who would be most acceptable to the public, both Pastors & People at large, & who were most talked of. It was observed that considering the public Calamities in general & Dangerous Situation of N. Haven in particular, it was by many tho't best not to proceed soon to a choice, & that it was scarcely expected that we should proceed to this at present—however that when the public spoke of the man, Mr. Wales & Mr. Baldwin were universally spoken of & mentioned by all—these first : then, & in close connexion with them, Mr. Buckm. & Mr. Strong were talked of ; that the several others were also spoken of, but generally with Objections of one kind or another decisive in every one's minds ; not but that there were several, as Mess<sup>rs</sup> Goodr. & Haven part<sup>y</sup>, who were weighty Characters & would fill the Chair with Honor & Usefulness. Mr. Goodrich was considered as thoro'ly learned esp<sup>y</sup> in Math. & Phil. & Chh. Polity—well in the learned Languages Lat. Gr. & Hebrew—but of deficient Elocution, & tho' well yet not eminently studied in Theology ; his Compositions not accurate either as to Language or Sentiment, nor sufficiently animated to arrest the Attention—i. e. great, very great & judicious in every Thing but Div<sup>y</sup>, in which he had arrived at his Akme or height of Improv<sup>t</sup>—in short that in Div<sup>y</sup> he did not equal himself. But as he was an excellent & great Scholar, one of the greatest of the

American Literati, so it was considered that he might serve in the double office of *Prof. of Div<sup>y</sup>* & *Prof. of Mathematics*, & by his weighty Influence in the Gov<sup>t</sup> of College become a great honorable & ornamental Character in this Seat of Learning. He would have given me great assistance. I think his indifferent Elocution prevented his Choice. Mr. Haven was known to none but Mr. Johnson & myself. We well knew him to be the learned and venerable Divine & every way truly excellent; he would have adorned the Chair & been a Glory to the College. There were, besides his being unknown, two difficulties attend<sup>d</sup> him—a very valetudinary & infirm State of Health for years; & his being lately confirmed in the Affections of his People. There was a thought of translating him from Dedham to the N<sup>o</sup> Chh. late D<sup>r</sup> Eliot's in Boston. But his pple exerted themselves & manifested such Friendship & Liberality on this Occasion as fixed him. Indeed it was considered & found that in all the Instances of settled Ministers w<sup>o</sup> came under Contemplation those worthy to be bro't to Coliege were almost immoveably established in the affections of their Flocks. Mr. Havens Theology is clear & bright—he is a well studied Divine, and his Compositions, for Doctrine or sentiment, for Reasoning & Animation & for Neatness dignity & purity of Stile surpass those of all that have been mentioned.

After this full Discussion & Consideration of the matter this Afternoon about IV o'clock, we proceeded to give in our written Ballots—when it appeared by an unanimous Vote that Mr. *Abraham Baldwin* was elected Professor of Divinity in Yale College. A Deo fœlix faustumque sit hocce ψηφισμα!

As Mr. Goodrich signified his Resign<sup>a</sup> of the Tutorship, we by Ballot also elected Josiah Meigs A.B. Senior Bachelor of Arts a Tutor of this College. Mr. Dudley Baldwin resigning the Buttery Sir Barnet was elected Butler.

25. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> still sitting. We find the Rent Roll of the College Farms amount to about £250 L. M. silver p ann. This with £70 Int. on a fund of £1340, with Tuition Money on 150 Scholars £600, make our Finances yield 800 or £900 L. M. p annum.

26. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> adjourned to Tuesday 24<sup>th</sup> April next. Wedn<sup>y</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> Inst. late Mr. Tutor Lewis ordained at Stepney.

27. Mr. Baldwin returned from ordination. I addressed him with the Election & Call to the Professorship of Divinity. He



first heard of it at D<sup>r</sup> Danas yesterday. He received it with great Modesty. This Aft. came on Sleet & Rain: In the midst of it I rode over to Darby.

28. Ldsdy. Preached all day at Darby for good M<sup>r</sup> Humphrey,<sup>1</sup> upon Jn<sup>o</sup> iii, 19. In the Evening Mr. French æt 76 circa, gave me many Anecdotes of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Moss of Darby.

29. Returned. From Mr. Humphrey &c & Mr. French grandson of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Bowers first Minister I found—that Darby was originally settled from Milfd before the charter of 1662. The Chh was gathered & the succession of Ministers thus.

Rev. Mr. Bowers first ordained Minister & continued in the Min<sup>y</sup> about 25 years & died there. [Educated Harv. Coll. 1649.]

Rev. Joseph Webb,<sup>2</sup> preached here for phps 7 or 8 y. not ordained here, but removed & settled at Fairfld.

Rev. John James preached here 12 years & left—[& died at Wethersfld.]

Rev. Joseph Moss ordained here about 1706 or 1707. Was in the Min<sup>y</sup> 25 y. & died Jany 1731<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> Æ 54. A very learned Man in the Languages Lat. Gr. Heb. & in the Mathem. & Nat. Philosophy. Gov. Saltonstall said of him that he was the fittest Man in Connect. to make a Governor.

Rev. Daniel Humphry ord. March 6, 1733 4, now living. My father preached his Ordination Sermon from 1 Tim. iii, 1.

There are no Chh. Records to be found before Mr. Humphrys Day. Nor is it known when the Chh. was gathered—tho' it was probably about A. D. 1660.

#### ANECDOTES OF MR. MOSS.

He was a Man of singular Learning, excelling in Math. & Nat. Philosophy. He was a great Admirer of Mr. Lee's<sup>3</sup> Writ<sup>gs</sup> part<sup>y</sup> his Sol<sup>o</sup> Temple. He was of florid Elocution, & abounded in the highest Scripture Metaphors in Prayer, Preaching & Conversation. Had a singular Talent at spiritualizing every Thing & mak<sup>g</sup> every Occurrence & Event & all the phænomena of Nature speak some

<sup>1</sup> Daniel Humphreys (Yale 1732), father of General David Humphreys.

<sup>2</sup> A graduate of Harvard in 1684, and one of the founders of Yale.

<sup>3</sup> Rev. Samuel Lee, the well-known Puritan divine, who emigrated to New England in 1686, and lived mainly in Bristol, R. I., until his return in 1691.

useful Instruction. He was very edifying & instructive in Discourse. Behaved with apostolic Zeal & Dignity in the Pulpit, & in praying with Military Companies, and other public Occasions—part<sup>r</sup> at Raising his new Meet<sup>g</sup> house, after it was raised he stood within the frame & prayed in the midst of the Assembly in a very affect<sup>d</sup> & sanctify<sup>g</sup> & animat<sup>d</sup> & glorious Manner, using Scripture Expressions about the build<sup>g</sup> of the Temple & the Use of the Sanctuary, so as to put all the People into a sort of religious Rapture. He was like Elijah a Man of like Passions, & at times was betrayed in warm & intemperate Passion & acrimonious Expressions, for which he would often weep afterwards. He was low in his Stature but very fat & corpulent. Altho' lively in preaching, yet while the Congreg<sup>a</sup> was singing he would often fall asleep. He usually preached without Notes or with only a few Minutes written—and yet so abounded with entertain<sup>g</sup>, instruct<sup>g</sup>, & edifying matter as that he never seemed exhausted & always left off as it were without finishing his subject. He preached an Election Sermon w<sup>ch</sup> was printed, but in this it is said he did not equal himself. He was elected a Trustee of Yale Coll. Sept. 9, 1730. He was very facetious & addicted to laughing & Humour. When he was courting Mrs. Russel<sup>l</sup> he preached on Gen. viii, 9, so excellently that it was said no Woman could help having him.

30. Winter Vacation ended and Orders set up at College.

31. The classes began Recitations. The Seniors began Locke on Human Understanding Vol. 1. . . . By a Letter this post from the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Buckminster of the 22<sup>nd</sup> Inst. we are informed that on thursdy preced<sup>d</sup> or 18<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> the Rev<sup>d</sup> President Langdon was installed Pastor of the Chh. at Hampton Falls. God grant that he enjoy his Presence & a tranquil old Age. This good Gentleman has passed thro' a great Variety in Life. His Example is a very instructive Lesson to me. May I profit this by it at least, not to promise myself any great Things in Life, & least of all any Glory from the Presidency. This Afternoon I attended Mr. Whittelseys Lecture to young people—Gal. iv, 19.

Vespere optimæ cuidam dignissimæque feminæ (Viduæ) et perbene erga me meosque Volenti rationes colloquutione dedi cur non secum piâ quamvis et meritissimâ nuptus inirem. There is now no Snow on the Ground. This month has been mild & open.

<sup>1</sup> He married as his third wife, in October, 1716, Abigail, daughter of the Rev. Samuel Russel, of Branford.

## February

1. A Flight of Snow last night, but dissolved & mostly gone in the course of the day. I had no Hist<sup>y</sup> Lecture : but this Afternoon I attended a Sacramental Lecture at Mr. Edwds' Meeting, where Mr. Baldwin Professor-Elect preached on Jno. xvii, 4. This Even<sup>g</sup> Mr. Tutor Fitch arrived ; so all the Tutors present. Undergrad. present 42. By Mr. Fitch I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Hopkins dated Newport Jan<sup>y</sup> 26, 1781 wherein he says speak<sup>g</sup> of the state of Religion there "Every Thing is dark & discouraging here with respect to the all-important Interest. The pple in gen. are going from bad to worse : and I now see no way for my continuing here longer than till Spring. Neither your People nor mine are disposed to attend public Worship constantly, except a few Individuals. There is but little Encouragem<sup>t</sup> to preach where there is so little attention, & so very little concern about any Thing invisible.

I expected you, Sir, would be willing to perform the part of a Professor of Divinity, on the Decease of D<sup>r</sup> Daggett, till I was told the contrary by Mr. Fitch. I wish that place may be well supplied : but where is the man to be found ? The man who will accept, and who will be accepted ? If I knew of one who probably would be acceptable to the College, and might be willing to make a Trial half a year or a year, he must not be mentioned, if he be a New-Divinity-Man."

Rem<sup>k</sup> 1. Very lamentable is the state of Religion at Newp<sup>t</sup> and part<sup>l</sup> that they will not attend public Worship. But 2. One occasion of this Negligence is B<sup>r</sup> Hopkins' new divinity. He has preached his own Congreg<sup>a</sup> almost away or into an Indifference—he has 50 or 60 or more Families of his own Congreg<sup>a</sup> in Town, & might easily command a good Assembly if his preaching was as acceptable as his moral Character :—my Congreg<sup>a</sup> in Town are 70 or 80 families and would gladly attend such Preaching as D<sup>r</sup> Owens or D<sup>r</sup> Dodderidges or Preachers of far lower Abilities provided they were ejusdem Farinæ with the first Puritan Divines. 3. Altho' New-Div<sup>y</sup> preachers collect some large Congregations in some parts as Taunton, Middleboro', Abington &c yet their preach<sup>g</sup> is acceptable, *not for the new Tenets*, but for its containing the *good old Doctrines of Grace*, on which the new Gentlemen are *very sound & dear & full*. In other parts where the Neighbor<sup>s</sup> Ministers generally preach the old Calvinistic Doctrines, the People begin to be tired with the incessant Inculcation of the unintelligible & shocking new



Points, especially that an Unconverted Man had better be killing his father & mother than praying for convert<sup>e</sup> Grace; that true Repent<sup>a</sup> implies a Willingness & desire to be damned for the Glory of Gd; that we are to give Gd. Thanks, that he has caused Adam to sin & involve all his Posterity in total Deprav<sup>y</sup>, that Judas betrayed & the Jews crucified Christ; &c. &c:—that the Children of none but Communicants are to be baptized &c: that the Chhs & Ministers are so corrupt & laodicean & have so intermixt with the world, that the new Divinity Chhs. & Ministers cannot hold Communion but must & do recede & sequester themselves from them. Hence in Harwinton a Majority it is sd but be sure a considerable Body of the Chh. & Congregation are become opposed to Mr. Perry<sup>1</sup> & have begun an Altercation w<sup>o</sup> will probably end in a Separation. Rem. 4. I do not perceive on whom Mr. Hopkins has his Eye for a Professor of Divinity. But Mr. Fitch tells me that Mr. Hopkins spake of Mr. West of Stockbridge as a great Scholar, a great Divine & excellently qualified for such an Office, but he supposed the Corpor<sup>a</sup> would not chuse him; he also mentioned Mr. Hart of Preston as a great Divine. I rather think he supposed Mr. West would be acceptable to the Scholars. But when it is sd he would be willing to preach in Coll. a year on Tryal I shd rather think he meant some one else besides Mr. West or Mr. Hart.

2. Very mild Weather; no snow at N Haven. Mr. Spencer came to T<sup>o</sup> this day—from IX Partners in a Sleigh to Westbury, where the snow failed, so he came on with his sons to College on Horses.<sup>2</sup>

3. Yesterday several Whale Boats of the En<sup>y</sup> landed one mile below this Town, & at Westside & plundered at W. side. We were alarmed, & sent out for the Militia. The Enemy with a Vessel plying on & off passed to the Eastward this day. Col. Hull<sup>3</sup> from the Army passed thro' T<sup>o</sup> eastward for Boston. By him I this day forward a Diploma to the Rev<sup>d</sup> Enos Hitchcock & another to Col. Jn<sup>o</sup> Brooks for the Deg. of A.M. granted by the Corpor<sup>a</sup> last Week. A very mild day—pleasant, fair, Th. 45.—Mr. Tutor Goodrich left College this day. He was the only [first] Tutor that ever I

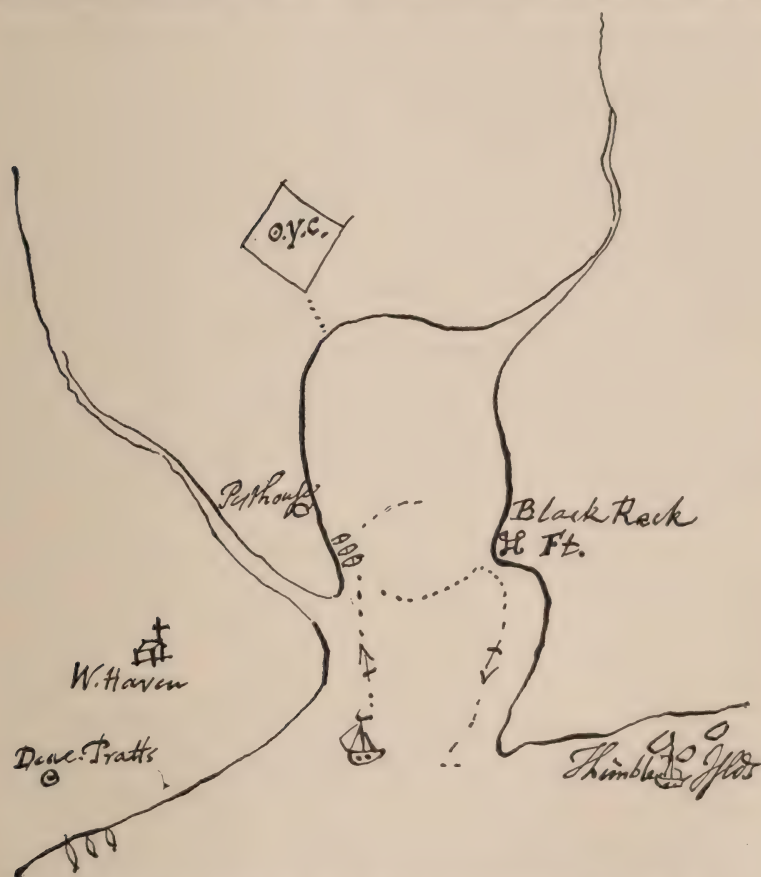
<sup>1</sup> Rev. David Perry (Yale 1772), who remained in Harwinton, Litchfield County, Conn., until December, 1783.

<sup>2</sup> Jared Spencer, son of Gen. Joseph, of E. Haddam, Conn., was graduated in 1784.

<sup>3</sup> William Hull (Yale 1772), afterwards General Hull of the War of 1812.



5. Cleared up fair & pleasant—Snow perhaps 3 Inches deep covered with Ice, but dissolving, as the Therm° is above freezing. Last Fryday Morn<sup>g</sup> before day several Long Isld Whale-boats with Tory Refugees landed at the Pest house about a Mile from College ; they went off in the Morning & landed that day at West Haven & plundered a house or two—then went over towards the fort at



[Sketch, by Dr. Stiles, of the Enemy's movements on February 2.]

Black Rock, which fired upon them & so they turned off, & returned on board a small sloop, which first proceeded Westward, where the Boats landed & plundered Deacon Platts house. Then going on board sailed Eastward to Thimble Islands probably to lie there & intercept our Coasters. Some say they had six, others



three Whale Boats carry<sup>s</sup> about 40 or 50 Men. Several were known to be New Haven Men.

Nullæ dantur Ideæ innatæ.—Isaacs 1, Resp. . . . .

6. Whether Polygamy is lawful? Seniors. This Even<sup>s</sup> Stebbins a Sen. Soph. returned from Clavarack with a Letter from Mr. Josiah Meigs of 1<sup>st</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> in answer to mine of 26<sup>th</sup> ult. signifying his Acceptance of the Tutorship, & that we might expect him at College next week.

7. William Brown a Sophomore dismissed.<sup>1</sup> Professor Strong exhibited his Lecture this Afternoon. I find by Convers<sup>a</sup> with the Rev. Cott. M. Smith that the New Div<sup>y</sup> Gent. are about to lower the Terms of full Communion to *doctrinal Knowledge & good Morals*, without *experimental Religion*—in order to bring their baptismal Scheme into general Reception. They bid fair to become as lax as any of the Chhs. which they have most zealously condemned. What Mutability! The good Lord teach us & keep us in the Truth.

8. I gave my Theol. Hist. Lecture in the Chapel. Th. 45.

9. I hear the Sophomore Class in Geography. Th. 31.

10. Snow Storm. It is said the Refugee Tory Whale Boats from L. Isld. which daily infest our Coasts, are fortifying at Thimble Islds. about five miles from College. The Students assembled are

|         |   |   |   |   |   |    |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|----|
| Seniors | . | . | . | . | . | 16 |
| Juniors | . | . | . | . | . | 14 |
| Soph.   | . | . | . | . | . | 34 |
| Fresh.  | . | . | . | . | . | 41 |

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105 Undergrad.

The late Convulsion in the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Line ends nearly thus.—Of about 2000 about 1500 are dismissed their Enlistm<sup>ts</sup> being expired, & there remain about 500. They have been injuriously treated. Th. 12.

11. Ldsdy. Mr. Baldwin, Professor-Elect, preached in the Chapel all day from Malachi iii, 13–18. Th. 22 at Noon very cold and at X in Even<sup>s</sup> 9.

Mr. Mede in his Exp<sup>o</sup> on Peter, quotes R. Samuel in the Talmud אין בין העולם הזה לימות המשיח אלא שעביר מלכויות בלבד. There is no difference between the present state of the World and the Days of the Messiah, but Subjection to the Kingdom

<sup>1</sup> To Harvard College, where he was graduated in 1783.

of the Gentiles only. Rem. 1. The Rabbins do not distinguish between the prophecies respect<sup>d</sup> the State of Things under & after the first Appearance of the Messiah, from those respect<sup>d</sup> the State of Things under his 2<sup>d</sup> Appearance. 2. They have another Saying, that in the Messiahs day Israel shall eat Swines flesh & there shall be no diff. between clean and unclean Meats. Now this with the preced<sup>d</sup>, respect the external State between the Ascension & 2<sup>d</sup> Com<sup>e</sup> of Messiah. But as the Jews after the days of Hillel lost the Idea of a 2<sup>d</sup> Coming so they centered both the prophecies & true Expositions of prophecy by their Ancestors, in a One Appearance of a still future Messiah. 3. With this Distinction much Light may be derived from the Rabbinical Traditions concern<sup>d</sup> the State of the World under the Messiah : which were truly & well derived to them from the Writ<sup>s</sup> under the first Temple & the true & faithful Expositions in Succession under the 2<sup>d</sup> Temple until about 60 or 80 years before Christ, when the Spirit was lost, a new theological System accord<sup>d</sup> to the Letter was introduced by the Pharisees & Rabbins. So the Christians with their Lights can better understand the Rabbinical Writ<sup>s</sup> than the Rabbins themselves.

In read<sup>d</sup> Mr. Mede I find that he agreed with *Piscator* in this that some shall rise 1000 years before others : & differed in this that while *Piscator* thot the 1000 y. Reign of X would be in Heaven, Mr. Mede herein agreed rather with *Alstedius* that the 1000 y. Reign of X would be on Earth. Yet herein he differed from *Alsted* who supposed this would be *after* the day of Judg<sup>t</sup> : whereas Mede supposed it would be in & durante die Judicii. . . . .

12. At Sunrise Therm<sup>o</sup> at Cypher or 32 below Freezing Point. Mens non semper cogitat. Lankton Resp.

13. The Seniors disputed Forensically, Whether a Man while unregenerate may enter upon the Work of the Ministry? This day I received a Letter from Mr. Goodrich dated at Hartf<sup>d</sup> the 11<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> in which he made a Resign<sup>a</sup> of the Tutorship. Last week he went to Hartford Court, consent<sup>d</sup> to return and officiate a few days or Week, if Mr. Meigs did not accept, otherwise not, as he means to settle in the Law at Hartf<sup>d</sup>. But upon my advising him that Mr. Meigs would come, he wrote me this Resignation. Th. 41.

14. Reading Mr. Valentine Rathbun's Account of the new Religionists at Nesqueunia<sup>1</sup> ten miles N. W. from Albany. The whole

<sup>1</sup> The reference is to the earliest Shaker settlement in this country, in the township of Watervliet, Albany County, N. Y.

Number of the Teachers or Heads is Twelve—"five males & seven females; three of the males & two fem. profess to be perfect—the other 7 not perfect yet, but far advanced. This pple. are Europeans, a part of which came from Engld to N. York in the year 1774 & lived at N York & Albany & places adjacent two years. And in the year 1776 the rest came to Philad<sup>a</sup> & travelled thro' Pensylv<sup>a</sup> to N York, *where the whole twelve came together*, and directly went & made a purchase of Land in a place called Nisqueunia, about nine or ten miles northwest from Albany, where they immediately settled & went to clear<sup>g</sup> their Land." . . . . On 26<sup>th</sup> of May 1780, Mr. Rathbun visited them at Nisqueunia, was converted & became one of them, afterwards left them, & printed this account dated Pittsfield Dec. 5, 1780. . . . . This Mr. Rathbun is a Baptist Minister in the confines of Pitsfld in Mass. & New Lebanon in N. York State. He was with them all last summer & thor'oly initiated into their Mysteries: & coming off, writes this Palinodia or Retractation & Declar<sup>a</sup> of Repent<sup>a</sup> of his Error. It is said that the number of Converts are about *four hundred*—and that the Delusion is still propagating. One M<sup>r</sup> Johnson<sup>1</sup> ph. æt. 35, formerly an ordained Presb. Minister of good moral Character, is deeply taken in & goes all lengths with this People. They give the Name or Appellation of the ELECT LADY to this Woman who is at the Head of this new religious Institution. The civil Authority of Albany have put her & some others in Goal there on account of enthusiastic Wildness and Madness.

It is remarkable that there shd. be two Women deceiving the public at the same time with two such diff. monstrous & sacrilegious Systems; as that of Jemima Wilkinson at Rh. Isld. who calls herself the PUBLIC UNIVERSAL FRIEND, and this of the ELECT LADY. The former says she is Jesus X the eternal Son of God; the other that she is the Mother of all the Elect, that the Fulness of the Gdhd. dwells in her, that she is the Queen of Heaven, Christs wife, that X thro' her is born a second Time. Not only are these Mistakes, but really impious & blasphemous. I suspect this dozen profane Europeans, with one Mr. Martin a preacher fr. Ireland, & some others, have been sent over into America by Ministerial Connexions, to excite Confusion & religious Disturbance and propagate principles against fighting & resist<sup>g</sup> G. Britain; and also to cover themselves with this cloud

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Johnson (Yale 1769), born 1744, joined the Shakers in 1780.



of religious Dust while they are acting as Spies among us & procur<sup>g</sup> and faithfully transmitt<sup>g</sup> political Intelligence to the Enemy. This espec<sup>y</sup> as the Elect Lady & her Connexions. But this is not the case as to Jemima—her disorder is temporary Insanity or Lunacy, or Dementia quoad hoc.

15. A flying Report that Arnold has been repulsed in Virginia. We have 118 Undergraduates present. I exhibited my Lecture the subject being the history of the *Elect Lady* at Nesqueunia about 10 Miles NW of Albany—and *Jemima Wilkinson* the public Universal Friend at Rh. Isld, and their Adherents. The latter stiles herself Jesus Christ, Gd manifest in the flesh, & the eternal Son of God; the former stiles herself the Spouse & Wife of Jesus Christ, the Mother of the Elect, & one in whom dwells the Fulness of the Gdhead bodily. Both have risen up within 3 or 4 years. Jemima began 1777; the Elect Lady & 11 European Associates made no noise till April 1780, and have about 400 Adherents in the N. Western parts. I spent the Even<sup>g</sup> with D<sup>r</sup> Bellamy.

16. This day Commons set up at College & not before since Vacation, by reason of the Difficulty of getting provisions without Silver.

17. Last Even<sup>g</sup> I spent with Col. Humphry<sup>1</sup> one of G. Wash. Aids. He informs me that the begin<sup>g</sup> of last M<sup>o</sup> Gen. Morgan with a Corps of one Thous<sup>d</sup> gained a complete Victory over a Corps of the Enemy of a like number the flower of L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis' Army at  
in the N.W. Parts of N<sup>o</sup> Carolina.

He also informed me that at a Place 16 miles West of New Windsor or 16 m. west of N<sup>o</sup> River, there were dug up the last Summer a Bed of large Bones & Teeth—that Gen. Washington & two Sleighs of his Gentlemen one of w<sup>e</sup> was the Colonel himself, rode out thither this Winter to see & examine these Bones. Col. Humphry says he particularly examined a Tooth which he judged weighed two Pounds—and a Bone being the Knuckle or Head of some bone with broken parts of the Bone, which he judges about a foot Diameter. G. Wash. mentioned that he had in Virginia some of the Ohio Teeth, which resembled these—and that a Gentleman informed him who saw the Ohio Bones on the spot, when they raised up the Head out of which they took the Teeth, & found it to be nearly of Man's Height, or a man stand<sup>g</sup> by it, it reached up to the middle of his Face. They all take these Bones to belong to Quadrupeds.

<sup>1</sup> David Humphreys (Y. C. 1771).

I suppose them to be human—like the Bones & Teeth at Clavarack. This Foren. Mr. Baldwin rec<sup>d</sup> the follow<sup>g</sup> Lett. from G. Parsons :

“Sir

on the 17<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> Gen. Morgan with 800 attacked Col. Tarlton with 1000 near Peedee S. Car<sup>o</sup> totally routed and pursued him 20 miles. Enemies Loss

10 Commissioned Officers } Killed  
100 R. & File

200 Wounded

29 Officers } Prisoners  
500 R & File

2 p<sup>s</sup> Art<sup>y</sup>, 2 Standards, 800 *Muskets*, 1 travell<sup>g</sup> forge, 35 Baggage Waggons, 70 Negros, 100 *Dragoon Horses* taken. Our loss 12 killed 60 wounded.

14 Feby.

S. H. PARSONS.”

This Aft. a Chamber theol. Lecture—Subject Whether there are any Promises to the Doings of the Unregenerate?

18. Ldsdy. Mr. Baldwin preached A.M. Rom. i, 20, present 105 scholars. P.M. Luke. v, 32. Two of the Sophimores Abiel Holmes & Jed. Morse propounded for full Communion . . . .

19. Seniors Syllogistic Disputation—Nulla Idea duobus Sensibus percipitur. Resp. Kent.

20. Whether the Immortality of the Soul can be proved by Reason? The Seniors disputed it excellently & learnedly. This Even<sup>g</sup> Sir Meigs arrived in Town.

21. Mr. Josiah Meigs, Senior Bachelor of Arts, was qualified and publickly introduced into the Office of the Tutorship in the Chapel after Morning Prayers—and I committed the Sophimore Class to his Tuition and Government. Mr. Dwight has lately accepted the care of [a Trusteeship in] the Academy at Bennington.

22. No Lecture. Public Rejoicings in New Haven for Gen. Morgans Victory over Col<sup>o</sup> Tarleton near Peedee S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> on the 17<sup>th</sup> Jany—and also for the Naval Victory of Count d’ Estang over the Brit. fleet bound to the W. Indies. A Tent erected in the Green & Field p<sup>s</sup> on the Occasion, a Salute of thirteen Canon—in the Even<sup>g</sup> Sky Rockets.

23. Reading Cicero’s Epistles to Atticus . . .

24. I gave three Theological Discourses this day as usual on Saturdays. At XI<sup>h</sup> I explained Vincent on the Catachism to the Senior Class. In the Aft. a Lecture to a select number of serious Scholars about 20 in the Library from all the Classes. At Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers I expounded a Chapter in the Confession of Faith, publickly in the

Chapel. The good Lord accompany with a Blessing my Endeavors to impregnate the Minds of my Pupils with doctrinal & experimental Knowledge in divine and heavenly Things.

25. Ldsdy. Attended at Chapel. Mr. Baldwin preached A.M. 1 Cor. xv, 19. P.M. Zech. iv, 7. Reading Mede—and Chamier.

27. . . . . This Aft. Report that Articles proposing a Basis for Pacification between the Belligerent Powers, were received in Lond. from Madrid about Middle of November—the Independency of the United States to be acknowledged.

27. Whether ministerial Support by Taxes be Jure divino? Little Snow on the Ground. Virginia has ceded to the Congress all the Lands North & West of the River Ohio; and thereupon Maryld. has acceded to the Confederacy which is now complete.

28. Professor Strong exhibited his Lecture. . . .

### March

1. I gave my historical Lecture—on Virginia. Little or no Snow on the Ground.

Tutors take the Rank of residentiary Masters and Bachelors of Arts, altho' they the Tutors should be of Junior Standing in the Catalogue of Graduates. But it has been formerly a matter of doubt at Yale & is still so at Harvard, whether a Tutor of Senior Stand<sup>e</sup> in the Catalogue shall precede or take rank of one of Jun. Standing yet prior in his Election & Induction into the Tutorship. I recollect upon this matter two or three Instances. At Commencem<sup>t</sup> 1743 Mr. Darling was elected; at the End of the Vacation in Oct. Mr. Whiting was elected, and both were inducted together. They were of the same Class 1740 but Mr. Whiting had the Priority in the Class—for in those days the classical Location was according to family Dignity. Tho' Mr. Darling was first elected yet Mr. Whiting took the tutorial Rank before him. In 1745 Mr. Welles (graduated 1741) took Rank of Mr. Fisk, grad. 1743, tho Mr. Fisk had been in the Tutorship some time before Mr. Welles was elected. But in 1748 this point was contested by Mr. Williams, grad. 1745, who had been in the Tutorship a whole year before Mr. Phelps was elected who grad. 1744. It came on thus. The Senior Tutors Room was next to the Library, & he was Librarian with a Perquisite. Mr. Fisk resigned in the Spring 1748—upon which M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> claimed this Privilege & Primacy & removed into the Chamber of the Senior Tutor. Mr. Phelps resented it; and the Thing



was referred to President Clap, who determined it for Mr. Williams. But I well remember we tho't it wrong at College, as I was then a residentiary Graduate. However the chief reason why we tho't so was because the Custom had been otherwise—& Mr. Phelps had for three Qu<sup>rs</sup> of a year taken Rank of Mr. W<sup>ms</sup> in sitting in the Hall, at Meet<sup>s</sup>, & in Processions. Yet when the matter was canvassed among the Graduates, it was conceded, that the Dignity of the Tutorship exceeded that of Graduation in Arts; so that there never was a doubt but that a Tutor tho' A.B. should take Rank of a Master of Arts. The only Quest. is whether Election into the coequal Order of the Tutorship is not a Restitution to Priority or Order of Rank in the Catalogue? And yet consid<sup>r</sup> the matter officially, it shd seem otherwise. What governed Pres<sup>t</sup> Clap was, that in the co-equal order of the Fellowship, they rank accord<sup>s</sup> to order of Election, not of the Catalogue. And I rather think this is a just Principle. But diff. usages will take place at different times, each carrying their temporary & contrary reasons. Thus formerly it was no dishonor to be chosen Tutor (more than Fellow or Presid<sup>t</sup>) after one of a junior Standing; but from a disuse & Avoidance of such an Election for 20 or 30 years, it is now considered dishonorable. Formerly the President always spoke to the Person on whom he set his eyes for Tutor & desired him to adapt his Studies preparatory, & the Corpor<sup>s</sup> elected that person—now otherwise, the Corpor<sup>s</sup> it is said not confiding in D<sup>r</sup> Daggett's Judgement took it intirely into their own hands. Now every Class of Graduates expects Tutors to be chosen from among them in their Order—& if any Class is passed over it is disagreeable, & it would be considered dishonorable if after electing a Tutor from a Class of Graduates of Jun. Stand<sup>r</sup> another should be elected from one of Senior Standing. This I think not just. The governing principle ought to be to elect the best Scholars into the Tutorship. And it is such an Honor as Token of literary Merit, that I shld not be ashamed to take the Office tho' elected after a Junior; any more than to come into the Fellowship after Fellows of Jun. Standing. So in other Fraternities or public Bodies, the official Rank governs beyond Age or offices or Degrees out of the Body. In the numerous Societies in London, the Nobility themselves rank below their civil Degrees of Honor during their acting as Members. Yet Sons of Nobility in the House of Commons I think always take Rank of other Members. The French Army is full of Nobility—in the Army they rank

accord<sup>d</sup> to Military Honor—in Court Levees & in civil Life accord<sup>d</sup> to their political or civil Honors. In the Court or College of Cardinals a Cardinal Deacon is above all the Bishops & Archbishops in the Hierarchy; and Cardinal York now living, when created Cardinal tho' only æt. 22, ranked above the most aged Dignitary in the Chh. out of the College of Cardinals.

It was always customary for the Rector or Tutors to carry their own Classes thro' the 4 years if they tarried so long—till 1744 when Presid' Clap altered it; and ever since the Senior Class comes to the Tuition of the President. When Rector Clap first came to Yale Coll. he took the Seniors who graduated 1740. But the follow<sup>g</sup> year Mr. Tutor Whittelsey kept the Senior Class who grad. 1741. In 1743<sup>4</sup> the Rector desired to take the Seniors but did not; but took the Juniors, who also of course continued under his Instruct. also in their Senior year. And thenceforward it is established usage for the Seniors of Course to come to the President. The Chief Reason is because they recite but once a day, & this leaves the Pres<sup>t</sup> most Leisure.

In convers<sup>a</sup> this day with Mr. Jn<sup>o</sup> Whiting formerly Tutor we recollected the follow<sup>g</sup> Arrangements of the Classes with their Instructors yearly for 15 or 16 years from the accession of Rector Clap afterwards President till 1755 when I left college.

The Name of the head Scholar in each class is noted, when the Classes may be distinguished in the Catalogue.

CONSPECTUS GENERALIS CLASSIUM SUORUMQUE TUTORUM.

Commencement Sept. 1739 to Sept. 1740

|               |                           |                                              |
|---------------|---------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
|               | Senior Class—J. Whiting   | 1 Tutor C. W <sup>m</sup> .—Apr. 1740 Rector |
|               | Junior Livingston         | 2 Tutor Whittelsey [Clap                     |
|               | Sophomore Eliot           | 3 Tutor Lyman—Sen <sup>rs</sup> till Spring  |
|               | Freshmen N. Whiting       | Tutors—Williams after Dec.                   |
| 1740 to 1741— | Seniors Livingston        | 1 Whittelsey                                 |
|               | Jun. Eliot                | 2 Lyman                                      |
|               | Soph. Whit <sup>s</sup>   | Rector                                       |
|               | Freshmen Huntington       | Whitt <sup>y</sup> } Only two Tutors         |
| 1741 to 1742— | Seniors Eliot             | 2 Lyman till Spring—Rector                   |
|               | Jun. Whiting              | Rector                                       |
|               | Soph. Hunt.               | Whittelsey                                   |
|               | Fresh. Russel             | — in Spring Tut. Worthington                 |
| 1742 to 1743— | Sen <sup>rs</sup> Whiting | Rector                                       |
|               | Jun. Huntington           | 1 Whittelsey                                 |
|               | Soph. Russel              | 2 Worthington                                |
|               | Fresh. Fitch              | Whitt. & Rect.                               |

|                                   |               |                                      |                |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|--------------------------------------|----------------|
| 1743 to 1744—Seniors              | Hunt.         | 1 Whittelsey                         | } three Tutors |
| Jun.                              | Russel        | Rector                               |                |
| Soph.                             | Fitch         | 3 Darling                            |                |
| Fresh.                            | Wolcott       | 2 Whiting                            |                |
| 1744 to 1745—Sen.                 | Russel        | Rector                               |                |
| Jun.                              | Fitch         | 3 Darling till July—President        |                |
| Soph.                             | Wolcott       | 2 Whiting                            |                |
| Fresh.                            | J. Fitch      | 1 Whittelsey till Aug.—Fisk in Aug.  |                |
| 1745 to 1746—Seniors              | Fitch         | President Clap                       |                |
| Jun.                              | Wolcott       | 1 Whiting                            |                |
| Soph.                             | J. Fitch      | 2 Welles—preceded Fisk               |                |
| Fresh.                            | T. Russel     | 3 Fisk                               |                |
| 1746 to 1747—Senior Class—Wolcott |               | The President                        |                |
| Junior                            | J. Fitch      | 1 Whiting Sen. Tut. resigned at      |                |
| Soph.                             | Russel        | 2 Fisk                               | [Commencement] |
| Fresh.                            | Cook          | 3 Williams                           |                |
| 1747 to 1748—Sen.                 | Fitch         | President                            |                |
| Jun.                              | Russel        | 1 Fisk Sen. Tut. resigned in Spring  |                |
| Soph.                             | Cook          | 3 Williams                           | [—Phelps]      |
| Fr.                               | Law           | 2 Phelps—Russel                      |                |
| 1748 to 1749—Sen.                 | Russel        | President                            |                |
| Jun.                              | Cook          | 1 Williams Sen. Tut                  |                |
| Soph.                             | Law           | 2 Phelps resigned in Spring—Stiles   |                |
| Fr.                               | Saltonstal    | 3 Russel                             |                |
| 1749 to 1750—Seniors              | Cook          | President                            |                |
| Juniors                           | Law           | 3 Stiles                             |                |
| Soph.                             | Saltonstal    | 2 Russel res. Nov. 1750              |                |
| Fresh.                            | J. Law        | 1 Williams Sen. T. res. Spr'g—Pitkin |                |
| 1750 to 1751—Sen <sup>rs</sup>    | Law           | President                            |                |
| Jun <sup>r</sup>                  | Saltonstal    | 1 Stiles Sen. Tut.                   |                |
| Soph.                             | J. Law        | 2 Pitkin res. Fall 1751              |                |
| Fresh.                            | Hall          | 3 Hilhouse                           |                |
| 1751 to 1752—Sen <sup>rs</sup>    | Salt.         | President                            |                |
| Junrs                             | J. Law        | 1 Stiles Sen Tut.                    |                |
| Soph.                             | Hall          | 2 Hilhouse                           |                |
| Fresh.                            | Pitkin        | 3 Hopkins                            |                |
| 1752 to 1753—Sen.                 | J. Law        | President                            |                |
| Jun.                              | Hall          | 2 Hilhouse                           |                |
| Soph.                             | Pitkin        | 3 Hopkins res.                       |                |
| Fresh.                            | W. Saltonstal | 1 Stiles Sen. Tut.                   |                |
| 1753 to 1754—Sen <sup>rs</sup>    | Hall          | President                            |                |
| Jun.                              | Pitkin        | 3 Hopkins res. 1754                  |                |
| Soph.                             | Salt.         | 1 Stiles                             |                |
| Fresh.                            | S. Talcott    | 2 Hilhouse                           |                |
| 1754 to 1755—Sen <sup>rs</sup>    | Pitkin        | President                            |                |
| When I re-                        | Saltonstal    | 1 Stiles Sen. Tut. res. Sep. 1755.   |                |
| moved to                          | Talcott       | 2 Hillhouse                          |                |
| Newport.                          | Stoddard      | 3 Welles                             |                |



## ORDER OF TUTORS IN SUCCESSION.

| Elected. |                                           | Resigned. |
|----------|-------------------------------------------|-----------|
| 1738 . . | Chester Williams, A.M. . .                | 1740      |
| 1739 . . | Chauncey Whittelsey, A.B. . .             | 1745      |
| 1739 . . | Phinehas Lyman, A.B. . .                  | 1742      |
| 1742 . . | Jn <sup>o</sup> Worthington, A.B. . .     | 1743      |
| 1743 . . | Th <sup>o</sup> Darling, A.M. . .         | 1745      |
| 1743 . . | John Whiting, A.M. . .                    | 1747      |
| 1745 . . | Samuel Fisk, A.B. . .                     | 1748      |
| 1745 . . | Noah Welles, A.M. . .                     | 1746      |
| 1746 . . | Warham Williams, A.B. . .                 | 1750      |
| 1747 . . | Alex. Phelps, A.M. . .                    | 1749      |
| 1748 . . | William Russel, A.B. . .                  | 1750      |
| 1749 . . | Ezra Stiles, A.B. . .                     | 1755      |
| 1750 . . | Timothy Pitkin, A.B. . .                  | 1751      |
| 1750 . . | James Ab <sup>m</sup> Hillhouse, A.B. . . | 1756      |
| 1751 . . | Samuel Hopkins, A.B. . .                  | 1754      |
| 1754 . . | Jonathan Welles, A.M. . .                 | 1756      |

Ordained Oct. 22, 1755  
at Newport.

2. I received the following Letter from the Abbe Colin de Sepvigny a Chaplain in the French Army at Rhode Isld.

“ Illustrissime Domine

Utinam Signa meæ recordationis tibi manifestare possim ! dignum fuisse tui amoris sæpe desiderio desideravi. Si adest inter nostrarum relligiorum opiniones discrimen, semper sumus fratres. Corda submissa dissentientibus principiis educationis uniat amicitia. Mærore afficior quod opinio vulgaris quâ coarctor, meorum antegenitorum nomen sint meæ libertatis impedimentum. Quàm dulce et jucundum mihi esset vestras regiones habitare ? ibi potest cogitare vir probus, a funibus procul, præsertim principia è fonte sacro Cordis et Judicii exorta enucleare. In gremio ecclesiæ romanæ ossa mea requiescent. Sed usque ad ultimum vitæ meæ finem, in veneratione Americanorum delectata erit anima mea.

Hic gelidi fontes, hic mollia prata.—

Hic nemo, hic ipso tecum consumerer ævo.

— — — — —  
O fortunatos nimium sua si bona norint  
Americolas !

Tuam orationem inauguralem legi et perlegi. Sed mens mea isto dono expleri nequit. Per singulas paginas oculos avidos volvi, cunctas miratusque fui. Cum exquisitissimâ animi voluptate illam arripui. De variis Scientiis tam diserte quam recte disseruisti, sicut apis expertissima inter flores innumeros ex melioribus mel excerpisti.

Omne tulit punctum qui miscuit utile dulci  
Lectorem delectando pariterque monendo.

Sermone benigno artium alumnos ad magna evehis. Vadant quò tua Sapientia cælestis ducere conatur. Quam sublimis ! quam clara ! quam mira tua elocutio ! quàm ornata quàm alta Sermocinatio ! quot lepores !

Forsan ad Europæ littora mox occurram. Quando ad oras meæ patriæ accessero si per te mihi liceat, sæpe ad te scribam tecum alloquar de artibus liberalibus, de Sorboniæ decissionibus; quia Lutetiæ manebo, ut nunc mihi videtur. Sum semperque ero

Clarissime doctor

tuus obedientissimus & subditissimus

In exercitu fæderato

Servus

die 2<sup>do</sup> februarii Anno 1781.

COLIN DE SEPVIGNY.

Ad eruditissimum doctorem, Stiles, Præsidem Collegii Valensis."

4. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached in the College Chapel, Isai. lxiii, 1, 2, 3. Mr. Baldwin having last friday left us for the present to return to the Army, being Chaplain in M. Gen. Parsons' Brigade & Division on North River. After Sermon I admitted into full Communion Abiel Holmes & Jedidiah Morse two Undergraduates. Then I descended from the Desk and administered the Sacram<sup>t</sup> of the Lds. supper to Communicants sitting in the Seniors Seat, & in the presence of the whole Assembly. Communicants present

Myself—Administrator of the Ordinance.

Brother 2 Sir Nott

|                 |           |         |         |
|-----------------|-----------|---------|---------|
| 1 Mr. Hotchkiss |           | Cornell | } Jun.  |
| Atwater         | } Seniors | Selden  |         |
| Channing        |           | Willard |         |
| Lankton         |           | Holmes  | } Soph. |
| Parmelee        |           | Moss    |         |
| Stebbins        |           | Weed    |         |

The Rev. Mr. Sherman preached P.M. in College; and I preached at Mr. Mathers Rom. xiv, 17, 18, when after Singing, they had a Contribution for the Ministry. They have lately begun that practice being the first Congreg<sup>a</sup> in this State that has Ldsdy Contributions for the Support of the Ministry—altho' this is usual at Boston, Newport & Portsmouth. . . . .

5. Unusquisque Defectus moralis est Peccatum—Parmelee Resp. The Inventory of Professor Daggetts Estate £416. Silver money, of which about £100 in Negroes. He left few Debts.

6. Whether the Event of Sin is to the Augment<sup>a</sup> of the declarative Glory of God, & the Holiness & Felicity of the Universe? Seniors. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Sherman of Milford was formerly Pastor of Chh in Woburn near Boston. He tells me that Mr. Fox I think (or however the first of two Ministers of the same name in said Chh) providentially avoided Lay-Ordination thus. The Chh

was gathered 1642 and the first Pastor Mr Tho<sup>s</sup> Carter who had rec<sup>d</sup> a learned tho' not College Education, was ordained by two lay-Brethren in the presence and by the Direction of the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Cotton & about a dozen other Ministers. And so tenacious was that Chh. of its Rights & independ<sup>t</sup> Liberties & plenary Power of self-organization [by officers] as of self Govern<sup>t</sup>, that they appointed one of their B<sup>n</sup> to lay on hands with the Ministers at Mr. Fox's Ordination. But some of the Ministers insisted that they would not lay on with him; upon which he became sick and was absent from the Ordination; & so the Ministers were left to pform the Ordin<sup>a</sup> by themselves. The moderat<sup>s</sup> Pastor of the Ordain<sup>c</sup> Council at the begin<sup>s</sup> of the Exercise observed publickly that the Brother of the Chh appointed by the Chh. to assist in laying on hands, was sick, & with a sarcastical Ambiguity added, "And we humbly acquiesce in this disposal of Providence." I think the Succession of Pastors in that Chh has been thus

Rev. Thos. Carter, ord 1642, ob.

Rev. Jabez Fox ord phps 1668 or 1670, ob.

Rev. John Fox ord ph. 1706, ob. about 1756. Min. 50.

Rev. 30 y. Colleague with Mr. Fox.

Rev. Josiah Sherman ord. ph. 1756. Colleague with Mr. Fox and resigned 1775.<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency Gen. Washington passed thro' Hartford Ldsdy the 4<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> in his way to Rh. Isld. to visit the French Division of the allied Army under him.

The Abbe de Sepvigny's Letter to Hen. Channing Coll. Val. Alum.

"Tuam gratam epistolam accepi, dulcis amice, et alacriter devoraverunt eam mei oculi, in meo corde integra remanet, tua amoenitas ibi signata est, quidquid virtus, quidquid sapientia possint in ea es exemplar.

In sperato colloquio magnam meam foelicitatem reposueram, diu hac dulcissimâ spe perfructus sum, sed è contra alia est Sortis voluntas. Mox proficiscar, relinquam hæc dulcia arva et tuæ patriæ fines, incertus in alis ventorum æquora percurram. forsàn Galliam quæret gubernator navis, forsàn colonias nostras, paucis horis ante progressum regionis accedendæ præcepto imbuendi sumus.

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Carter died in 1684. Jabez Fox (Harvard 1665) was ordained in 1679, and died in 1703. John Fox (Harvard 1698) was ordained in 1703, by pastors only, under the circumstances described in the Diary, and died in 1756. Edward Jackson (Harvard 1719) was ordained in 1729 and died in 1754. Josiah Sherman was ordained in 1756.



Quinetiam nihil incolume habeat cœlum sub quo natus es, attamen aer nimis fusus et attenuatus pro meis insuetis oculis. In sinu meorum parentum reditus sum, et nunquam e meâ memoriâ discedent tui urbanissimi. Ne tibi excedam aliquoties per meas epistolas amicitiam nostram ad te revocabo.

De oratione inaugurali celeberrimi doctoris et præsidis Stiles gratiam tibi refero. Hoc donum dono repensare vellem. Est supra laudis vocem. Sic in nostris concionabantur tempore augusti oratores Romani. Vale charissime amice.

Vivas in fœlicitate vivas.

Novi portûs die 2<sup>do</sup> Anni 1781.

Vale

COLIN DE SEPVIGNY."

Mr. H. Channing, New Haven.

7. A N. E. Snow Storm all day. This day I decyphered a Letter which fell into the hands of a Gentleman in Narragansett written in Character. He sent it to me for Interpretation. . . . This Evening I gave in the Chapel a philosophical Disc<sup>o</sup> on Nat. History.

8. Fair. Snow 3 inches. Received a Letter from Mr. Hazard now at Roxbury of 28<sup>th</sup> ult. giv<sup>g</sup> an acc<sup>o</sup> of an Aurora Bor. which he observed in Roxbury in the day time between three & four o'clock in the Aft. of 26<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> last. A luminous Appear<sup>a</sup> in the sky to the East of North—Corruscations of a pale red reached 25<sup>o</sup> above the Horizon. He never saw nor read of one in the day time before. Thinks he is not mistaken.

Read<sup>d</sup> Andrew Willets Exposition on Romans printed 1611. . . . I gave my Eccl. Lecture.

9. It is reported that Gen. Greene & his Army is retreat<sup>g</sup> before L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis & his Army in the Carolinas.

10. It is said that the French Army is embark<sup>g</sup> at Rh. Isld. for Virginia—and that the Militia are call<sup>d</sup> in at Rh. Isld. Lately several French men o'war from Rh. Isld. went to Chesepeak, & found Arnold encamped on Land—they burnt some of his Shipp<sup>g</sup>, took others, & bro't with them to Rh. Isld. the Romulus of 44 G. out of the Eng. Fleet.

Theol. Chamb. Lect.

11. Ldsdy. A.M. I exchanged with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Whittelsey who preached in the College Chapel from Jno. v, 36, while I preached at his Meet<sup>g</sup> from Num. xiv, 24. P.M. I preached in Chapel from Isai. xxx, 18. Reading Willet's Comment<sup>y</sup> on Romans. A fine clear day. Therm<sup>o</sup> 51. Snow gone.

12. Omnia Mala naturalia sunt Pœna Peccati. Perkins Resp.

At Noon passed this Harbor stand<sup>s</sup> westward, Eight Vessels of w<sup>c</sup> 3 or 4 Ships. They are a part of the British Fleet which [Saturd<sup>y</sup> morn<sup>g</sup>] sailed from Gardners Bay where they wintered—part went out to sea or southward, & these westward. After Even<sup>g</sup> prayers I gave a Lecture upon Natural History.

13. Whether Prescience implies Prædestination ? Seniors. Of 151 Undergrad. we have 130 present & closely applying to Study. We have 14 Episcopal Scholars viz.

|               |          |           |         |           |            |
|---------------|----------|-----------|---------|-----------|------------|
| Isaacs 1      | } Senrs. | Fowler 1  | } Soph. | Caldwel 1 | } Freshmen |
| Wooster 1     |          | Johnson   |         | Isaacs 2  |            |
| Wooster 2     |          | Masters 1 |         | Mansfield |            |
|               |          | Masters 2 |         |           |            |
| Thompson Jun. |          | Spencer 1 |         |           |            |
|               |          | Spencer 2 |         |           |            |

Upon Application to the President or Tutors liberty is given indifferently to all the Undergraduates to attend Ldsdy worship occasionally to any of the Meetings in Town—usually once a quarter. More frequent applic<sup>a</sup> have been made by the Chh. Scholars and this Indulgence more frequently granted to them, until now they think hard to be denied, & seem to claim an exclusive right of Exemption from attend<sup>s</sup> the Chapel Ldsdy Service. As much Indulgence shall be granted them as to others—but a Reason for grant<sup>s</sup> Chhmens Sons Leave of universal absence would operate to the Dissolution of the Chapel Worship. If therefore there is sufficient Reason to uphold the College as a distinct worship<sup>e</sup> Congreg<sup>a</sup> all must be obliged to attend indiscriminately.

Half a dozen Ministers or more of this Vicinity have set up a monthly Interview to dispute on Theological Questions previously given out, & discourse upon Religion & strengthen each others Hands in the pastoral Work. One is held this day in this Town. At 11½ P.M. I attended their public Lecture at Mr. Edw<sup>ds</sup> Meet<sup>s</sup> when Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Wales preached an excellent sermon from Phil. iii.

Mr. Avery left Norwich yesterday & says that he saw a man who was present at the Rejoycing at Newp<sup>l</sup> last week at the arrival of G. Washington, the Town illuminated—and that the French Fleet & part of the Army sailed last Thursday Even<sup>g</sup>—& that the Mass. & Rh. Isld. Militia were ordered in to Newport : G. Lincoln has the Command of them. G. Wash. passed thro' Hartford 4<sup>th</sup>

Ins<sup>t</sup> on his way to the Fr. allied Army at Rh. Isld, giving out that he shd not return that way but by the sea side. I think he would not tarry at Newp<sup>t</sup> after the Fleet had sailed, & so must have been here before this time, neither has he passed between this & Hartford & 2 Gent. came from there yesterday. I conjecture, he sailed on board the French Fleet for Virginia. If so may a gracious Heaven keep him amidst all Dangers, & give him the possession of Arnold. [Mistake.]

15. Mr. Cooke left Newp<sup>t</sup> last Saturday—says Gen. Washington was then at Newp<sup>t</sup> with G. Rochambeau & most of the French Army—only 1500 Troops with G. Veiomeneil sailed in a Fleet of a dozen Men o' War last Thursdy Even<sup>e</sup>—that the Militia of Mass. & Rh. Isld. were called in. Gen. Wash. arrived 5<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> at Newp<sup>t</sup> where he was received as a Marshal of France, and in the Even<sup>e</sup> the Town was grandly illuminated. Last Even<sup>e</sup> I gave a philosophic Lecture in the Chapel: but Avocations prevented my History Lecture this Afternoon. I received of Mr. Cook 500 Dollars in Silver & Gold on acc<sup>o</sup> of Rents of Dean Berkleys Farm at Rh. Isld. given to this College.

This Even<sup>e</sup> we examined Edward Edwards & Samuel Austin and admitted them into the Sophomore Class. This is contrary to our general Rule, but there were singular Reasons.

17. This day I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from the President of Congress inclosing one from Mr. Matlack, Sec<sup>y</sup> of the Philosophical Society at Philad<sup>a</sup>.

PHILADELPHIA, Feby. 7, 1781.

"SIR

The Amer. Phil. Society on the 5<sup>th</sup> of Jan<sup>y</sup> last held their first annual Election under the Act of Incorporation by the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, and I have it in charge to communicate to you, that they have elected you a *Councillor* for one year. The Powers of the Council are to "be described fixed & determined by the Statutes Laws Regulations & Ordonances of the said Society hereafter to be made" of which you will have due Notice.

The Members of this Society flatter themselves, that the benevolent & liberal Objects of it will induce you to give it your Countenance & Assistance, and more especially as you have dedicated your Time & Abilities to cultivate the Sciences, which drooping under the unfavorable Influence of the present Times, require to be cherished with the greater Attention by those whose station in Life will admit of it: Those who cherish them will certainly deserve & obtain the highest Honors. I am with g<sup>t</sup> Respect

Your most obedient

humble servant

TY MATLACK, Secy.



OFFICERS ELECTED THE "FIRST FRIDAY IN JANV" 1781.

President—Dr Franklin.

Vice Presidents—Dr Bond, Dr Rittenhouse & Jas Wilson.

Secretaries—Dr Ewing, Owen Biddle, T. Matlack, Rev. W. White.

Councillors—G. Bryan, T. M<sup>c</sup>Kean, Du Marbois }  
                    & Charles Thompson                 } 3 years.

& Charles Thompson

Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Duffield, Gov. Livingston,  
Gov. Jefferson & D<sup>r</sup> Wither- } 2 years.  
spoon

Gov. Jefferson & Dr Wither-  
spoon

Dr Ezra Stiles, Mr. Clarkson, J. B. }  
Smith & John Lukers } 1 year.

Smith &amp; John Lukers

Curators—Col. Nicola, Du Semitiere, & Dr Duffield.

Treasurer—F. Hopkinson."

18. Ldsdy. A.M. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater preached for me in Chapel ; and I preached at M<sup>r</sup> Mather's, Numb. ix, 29 & 32. P.M. I preached in Chapel Ps. xxv, 4, 5. A fine pleasant day ; Therm<sup>o</sup> 59. Reading Mr. Bray upon the vi<sup>th</sup> Vial ; also examining Mede on the same. After Sermon Gov. Trumbles Proclam<sup>a</sup> or Declaration read publickly towards spiriting up the People in the great & arduous Cause of Liberty, & to guard ag<sup>t</sup> British Insinuations.

19. Bellum utrinque non est licitum. Smith 1 Resp.

20. Seniors forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>—whether War can be lawful & right upon both sides? . . . .

21. Quarter Day at College. The Academic Exhibitions were performed in the Chapel before a numerous & brilliant Audience of Gentlemen & Ladies. The Performances were of the Senior Class. The Exercise began with a Latin Oration by Wright—then an Ode on the Spring was sung in the Gallery—next succeeded a dramatic Dialogue by Williams 1, Welles 1, Wooster 2, & Smith 1—then an English Oration by Breed—and all was closed with an Anthem.

We have certain Accounts that Gen. Ld. Cornwallis with his Army of 3 or 4000 had crossed N<sup>o</sup> Carolina into Virginia but was stopt at *Dan* River & began his Retreat with great Rapidity about 18<sup>th</sup> or 20<sup>th</sup> Feby.—and that G. Green set out in pursuit of him 21<sup>st</sup> Feby.—and that the Militia in the several Counties to the number of 6000 had joyned G. Green. Gen. Caswell with 4000 Car<sup>o</sup> (N<sup>o</sup>) Militia & Baron Steuben with 1000 & G. Weedon with 800, mak<sup>g</sup> an Army of Twelve Thous<sup>d</sup> were pursu<sup>d</sup> & encompass<sup>d</sup> G. Cornwallis. The British were at Portsm<sup>o</sup> in Virg. under

Arnold 26 Feby.—and one Quarter of the whole Militia in Virginia were in Motion.

The States of Holl<sup>d</sup> have acceded to the Neutrality. Three Dutch Vessels have been taken by the British, who have attacked St. Eustatius. I think a Dutch War inevitable. On first of March Ins<sup>t</sup> the Delegates of Maryl<sup>d</sup> in Congress signed & compleated the Articles of Confederation. Rejoycing in Philad<sup>a</sup>.

#### MEMOIRS OF MYSELF.

A.D. 1727. Nov. 29. O. S. Ezra Stiles born at N<sup>o</sup> Haven 8 miles from Yale College.

1736. Dec. & Nov. Began to learn Latin Æ. 9.

1742. Sept. Entered Yale College. Rev. Tho. Clap Rector.

1746. Sept. 3. Graduated A.B. Æ. 19. Nov. 23 rec<sup>d</sup> into the Chh.

1749. May 25. Instituted Tutor of Yale College Æ. 22. May 28 cir. Licensed to preach by N Haven Association.

Sept. Made the Valedictory Oration at Commencm<sup>t</sup> and graduated A.M. Rev. Tho. Clap Præsides.

1750 Dec. Delivered Funeral Oration on Gov. Law.

1752. Nov. Took the Attorney's Oath in N. H. Co.

1752. Sept. Delivered Half Century Oration.

1754. July. Graduated A.M. at Harv. Coll. Rev. Ed. Holyoke Præs. and journeyed from Boston to Philadelphia.

1753 Sept. Funeral Oration upon Bp. Berkly.

1755. May. Elected to the Ministry in the 2<sup>d</sup> Cong. Chh. Newport.

Aug. Accepted the Call.

Sept. Resigned the Tutorship & left College ; having been Tutor there going on seven years. Longer in this Office than any of my predecessors.

Oct. 22. Ordained Æ. 28 Pastor of 2<sup>d</sup> Cong. Chh. Newp<sup>t</sup> by Imposition of the Hands of my Father, & Rev. Mess<sup>rs</sup> Torrey & Burt.

1757. Feb. 10. Married with Miss Eliza. Hubbard of N. Haven.

1760. Apr. Preached a Sermon on Xtian Union—printed.  
Elected Fellow of the Philosp. Society at Philad<sup>a</sup>.
1765. March. Diploma of Doctorate in Div<sup>y</sup> from the University of Edinburg—Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Robertson, Principal.
1770. Apr. Preached M<sup>r</sup> Hopkins Instalm<sup>t</sup> Sermon. Printed.
1775. May 29. My wife died æt. 44. Hostilities 19. April.
1776. March. Removed from Newport to Dighton on acco<sup>t</sup> of the Times & Danger at Rh. Isld.
1777. April—I received a Call to the first Chh. in Portsmouth late President Langdon's: & removed my Family there.
1777. Sept. Elected President of Yale College. Æ. 50.  
Nov. 4. Elected Professor of Ecc. Hist<sup>y</sup> & visited the College.
1778. March 19. Resigned the pastoral Office over my dear Newport Flock. 20<sup>th</sup> Accepted the Presidency.  
June. Bid Farewell to the agreeable Congreg<sup>a</sup> at Portsmouth; And removed. Arrived with my Family at New Haven.  
July 8. Publickly installed or inaugurated into the office of the Presidency of Yale College, then consist<sup>g</sup> of about 130 Students. Rev. Eliphalet Williams Senior & presiding Fellow.
1780. Sept. An ad eundem Doctorate in Divinity at Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. D<sup>r</sup> Joanne Wheelock Præside.
1781. Jany. 31. Elected Fellow of the Mass. Academy of Sciences.
1781. Jany. 31. Elected a Councillor of the Philad<sup>a</sup> Society.
- [1782. Oct. 17. Married Mrs. Mary Checkley.
1783. May. Preached the Election Sermon at Hartford.
1784. Sept. Being present at the pub. Commencem<sup>t</sup> Nassau Hall the Deg. of D.D. and also the Degree of L.L.D. conferred upon me. Præside Wither-spoon.]

22. I had no Eccl. Lecture. I preached at Westside<sup>1</sup> Num.  
x, 29.

<sup>1</sup> West Haven: so called for many years later.



23. I visited the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Mather<sup>1</sup> who last Wednesday night returned from Hilsboro N<sup>e</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> w<sup>c</sup> he left 10 Febry, crossing Dan River the 14<sup>th</sup> with Gen. Greene. He was in the midst of the confusion of the Southern scene of War.

24. We have certain News of a Dutch War; & that an action had taken place in Car<sup>o</sup> wherein we imprisoned 300 of L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis' Army.

25. Ldsdy. I preached at Carmel . . . . Visited an aged & pious Woman after meeting.

27. Whether the lately proposed Terms of Pacification, purporting to have been proposed by the Court of Madrid (fictitious or not) as acknowledging Amer. Independ<sup>y</sup>, may be accepted, consistent with the Dignity & Glory of the United States? Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup> of the Senior Class. Answer. If Freedom of Fishery on the Fish Banks, and free Passage up the River Mississippi, and that the Bounds be the Line of 45<sup>th</sup> deg. Lat. & the parallel from the southernmost Bounds of Georgia—be granted—then the Pacific<sup>a</sup> to take place. I discoursed rather to indoctrinate the youth into principles upon which they might see the Wisdom of an American Acquiescence in a general Pacification upon a Plan inclusive of Amer. Independency.

A great Aur<sup>a</sup> Bor. fell this Even<sup>g</sup>. . . .

29. I gave my Eccl. Hist. Lecture this Afternoon.

30. I rode to North Haven, where near the Meetinghouse the auroral Zone of the 27<sup>th</sup> Inst. was seen by a number of Singers who tell me that it passed nearly right over them: eight miles or more truly above seven miles an Air Line from Yale College. This Aft. I received a Letter from the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Goodrich of Durham, giving Acc<sup>t</sup> of it as seen not by himself but by the Singing Meeting, who broke up to go out & view the Phænomenon . . . .

Mr. Tutor Atwater came to my house about five or six min. before the clock struck Ten. At the College Middle Gate he ranged the Arc with the Spire of Mr. Whittelsey's Steeple—and observed that the eastern End did *not* touch the horizon, but was against the Top of the Tower. He left me X. 32' & returning to College ranged the West post in my Bars with a Button Tree noting also the extremity of the Bow & reaching or touching the first Limbs but not the Horizon . . . .

<sup>1</sup> Allyn Mather (Yale 1771), pastor of the Fair Haven Society in New Haven.

## April

1. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. at Chapel, 2 Cor. v, 14, 15, and P.M. at Mr. Edwards' Meet<sup>g</sup> on the same Text, Mr. Edwds. preaching at College, 1 Jno. iv. 2. After Sermon in the forenoon & before the Congreg<sup>n</sup> was dismissed I administered the Communion in the Chapel: present

|          |           |          |          |
|----------|-----------|----------|----------|
| Myself   |           | Cornell  |          |
| Sir Ely  |           | Selden 1 | } Junrs. |
| Sir Nott |           | Willard  |          |
| Channing | } Sen'rs. | Hall     | } Soph.  |
| Atwater  |           | Holmes   |          |
| Parmeie  |           | Moss     |          |
| Stebbins |           | Weed     |          |

2. Annihilatio Peccatoris Justitiæ Dei repugnat. Stebbins Resp. I attended three Classes this day, Tutors Atwater & Meigs absent. I heard the Disput<sup>a</sup> of the Juniors in the Chapel on the Question relat<sup>g</sup> to the proposed Articles of Peace—they disputed orally without writing.

4. There are two literary Societies in College, which formed themselves spontaneously some years ago, the *Linonian*, and the *Brothers in Unity*. The first was formed about 25 years ago or about 1755, the other phps. 1768. The most of the Students are said to belong to one or the other. They have each their Libraries phps 100 Volumes each & yearly increasing. They have their anniversaries held in some Chamber abroad in Town, where they have Orations & Dialogues—they walk in Procession. This day was the Anniversary of the Brothers in Unity, as was last week that of the Linonians. They ask Leave of the President for an Exemption from Afternoon Recitation. The Authority of College has no other Direction in the Matter. The Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Mather was with them as a Brother to day.

5. Eccl. Hist Lecture, on Fr. Span. & Port. Religious Settlements & Constitutions in America to the close of last Century.

6. After Eveng. Prayers I gave a philosophical Lecture. . . .

7. There has been a general Battle at Guildford Courthouse in the upper part of N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> 25 M. this side Hillsborough, about the 15<sup>th</sup> March, between the Amer. Army under Gen. Greene and the British under Gen. Earl Cornwallis: without success . . . .

Mr Tutor Atwater's Observ<sup>a</sup> at Yale College of the Depth of the Snows which fell during the hard & severe Winter of 1779-1780—and also 1780-1781. Taken within ten miles from the sea side.

|       |                                 | feet | Inches. |                                       |
|-------|---------------------------------|------|---------|---------------------------------------|
| 1779. | Nov. 17 <sup>th</sup> day . . . | 0    | 2       |                                       |
|       | 26 . . .                        |      | 9       | From the 1 <sup>st</sup> of Nov. 1780 |
|       | Dec. 2 . . .                    |      | 1       | to Apr. 6 1781 there has              |
|       | 5 . . .                         |      | 9       | fallen at Y. College only             |
|       | 12 . . .                        |      | 1       | <i>Twenty five</i> Inches of Snow ;   |
|       | 16 . . .                        |      | 2       | altho' the preceding Winter           |
|       | 18 . . .                        | 1    | 5       | there fell Ninety five Inches.        |
|       | 27 & 28 . . .                   | 1    | 6       |                                       |
| 1780  | Jany. 2 & 3 . . .               | 1    |         |                                       |
|       | 10 . . .                        | 0    | 5       | At Meriden 30 Snows this              |
|       | 17 . . .                        |      | 1       | Winter 1780 & 1781.                   |
|       | 27 . . .                        |      | 0½      |                                       |
|       | Feb. 7 & 8 . . .                |      | 7       |                                       |
|       | 23 . . .                        |      | 0½      |                                       |
|       | Mar. 12 . Hail                  |      | 2       |                                       |
|       | 16 . . .                        |      | 4       |                                       |
|       | 31 . . .                        |      | 4       |                                       |
|       |                                 |      |         | 7f. 11 Inc.                           |

D<sup>r</sup> Smith late Provost of Philad<sup>a</sup> College, has accepted an opulent Chh Living in Maryland & lately removed thither. His moral character is very exceptionable and unbecom<sup>g</sup> a Minister of Christ, & it is even a doubt whether he is a Believer of Revelation. He is infamous for religious Hypocrisy. Val. Max.—“*per Religionis Simulationem Alimenta Inertiae quæri.*” . . . .

8. Ldsdy. The Rev. John Searl preached for me all day, A.M. upon 2 Cor. iv, 18, P.M. Isai. ix, 7. Memoirs of Mr. Searl.

1721. May 14. Born at Northampton under Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Stoddard.

1741 Entered Yale Coll. and 1745 Graduated there A.B.

1749 Aug<sup>t</sup> 2. Ordained Pastor of Sharon.

1754. Aug. Resigned the Ministry at Sharon in infirm Health.

1759. Jan. 17. Installed Pastor of the Chh. of Stoneham.

1776. April 28. Resigned the Min<sup>y</sup> at Stoneham. He has since been preaching in divers places and received a Call to settle in Min<sup>y</sup>



at Darby North Hill.<sup>1</sup> But I have dissuaded his acceptance, there being but about 40 Families & few only of these liberal. He is one of the most learned Divines & thoro' Theologians in America.

9. No syllogistic Disputation. At XI<sup>b</sup> I attended Freemans Anniversary Meeting for the Election of Deputies, & General Officers. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williston preached from Deut. iii, 24, 25.

10. Whether Knowledge & Literature increaseth the Happiness of Mankind? Disputed by the Seniors in the Socratic manner extemporaneously. . . . .

11. I have been sick to-day. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Sol<sup>o</sup> Williams of Northampton here. . . . .

12. Unable to attend my Lecture or Recitation this day. By a Letter dated from the Camp at the Highl<sup>ds</sup> 9<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> advised—

“an action at the Southward wherein Gen. Green the Loss of 219 killed & wounded. The Attack was made by G. Greene who accomplished his Design w<sup>c</sup> was to encumber Cornwallis with a number of Wounded, & by that means retaid his Retreat until he could operate against him with his whole force. I was yesterday at his Excell<sup>ys</sup> Quarters (G. Wash.) when a Person arrived from Philad<sup>a</sup> with an acc<sup>o</sup> of a 2<sup>d</sup> Action wherein G. Greene gained Possession of the field; the Enemy fled leav<sup>g</sup> upwards of 700 killed & wounded.”

“NATHAN BEERS.”

13. Good friday. Reading Cavallo on Electricity. Muschenbroek discovered the Leyden Phial 1746. . . . .

Europeans experimented with this & reasoned. But neither in *Exp<sup>ts</sup>* or *Reason<sup>g</sup>* upon them equalled the Progress in both at Philad<sup>a</sup> by D<sup>r</sup> Franklin & Mr. Kinnersly. But no Credit is given them by Cavallo, who writes so lately as 1777. The Electrical Kite, the pointed Rods, the positive & negative state of Elect<sup>v</sup> &c &c belong to Philad<sup>a</sup>.

Mr. W<sup>ms</sup> of N<sup>o</sup>hampton informs me that Mr. Dwight has accepted a place at the Board of Trustees for Bennington Academy, but not the Headship. But he thinks it probable that he will finally fix as Head of that Institution as it is designed ultimately for a College.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> A parish formed in 1779 in that part of Derby, which is now Seymour, Conn., with the name of the Great Hill Society; it is now extinct.

<sup>2</sup> One leaf of the Diary has been removed at this point: undoubtedly by the author on second thoughts, as containing reflections on Mr. Dwight, which he was unwilling to leave for others to see.

15. Ldsdy. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Wales of Milf<sup>a</sup> preached all day in the Coll. Chapel, M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater preaching for him<sup>1</sup> . . .

17. Whether Gd exercises a particular as well as an universal Providence? News that a few days after the Battle of 15 ult. at Guilf<sup>3</sup> Courthouse N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> the En<sup>y</sup> left the Ground and departed elsewhere. This like the Battle of Bunker Hill has taught the En<sup>y</sup> our fighting Abilities. By Gen. Greenes Letter to Congress it has been a severe Action on both sides. Our N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> Militia gave way & run off: but the Continental Forces & the Virginia & Maryl<sup>d</sup> Militia & the Horse fought firmly. . . . .

18. . . . . There are now present 120 Scholars. Vacation drawing nigh there begins to be an Impatience for return<sup>e</sup> home. I appointed for June Qu<sup>r</sup> Fuller 1 Lat. Orat., Ripley Eng. Orat. and Gold, Josleyn & Pitkin Dialogists.

19. Annivers<sup>y</sup> of the Hostilities at Lexington 1775. Examined and admitted Jn<sup>o</sup> Punderson Seward into the Freshman Class. This Morn<sup>g</sup> Black Rock Fort<sup>2</sup> 2 Miles off taken by the En<sup>y</sup> and one of our men killed & 7 captivated & carried off. . . . .

21. This day my D. Emilia æt. 19. I observe in the Prints that on 18<sup>th</sup> day of March last died in Jersey the very pious and Rev<sup>d</sup> John Brainerd æt. 62, Pastor of the Presbyterian Chh. at Deerfield in New Jersey. D<sup>r</sup> Sprout of Philad<sup>a</sup> preached his funeral Sermon. Mr. Brainerd was my Classmate tho' much older & graduated at Yale Coll. 1746. He was Brother to the Rev<sup>d</sup> David Brainerd an eminent Indian Missionary who died 1745, whom he succeeded in the Indian Mission—but this service has come to little—so that for many years he has labored in Word & Doctrine to an English Congregation, He was not great in preaching tho' a pious sound Divine; but exceedingly edifying in Conversation. He was a Trustee of Nassau Hall.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Mr. Wales's letter accepting this appointment, begins as follows:

“Rev<sup>d</sup> & Hon<sup>d</sup> Sir,

“MILFORD, April 2, 1781.

“I had rather preach in almost any other place than the College Chappel, but in Obedience to your request will engage to exchange with Mr. Atwater at the time proposed, extraordinaries excepted.”

<sup>2</sup> Later known as Fort Hale. The attack is supposed to have been made in boats from Long Island.

<sup>3</sup> Five leaves of the Diary have been torn out at this point. The mutilation was probably the work of the author, and may have been due to regret for free remarks concerning the Rev. Mr. Dwight, some one of whose writings (perhaps his poem on America) is the subject of the sentences that next follow.

Work of Merit, it would so commend him to the Army, the Assemblies & Congress that it would make his fortune, by procur<sup>g</sup> him some office, as Sec<sup>y</sup> to an Embassy &c. It is natural to suppose such Ideas play in his mind respect<sup>g</sup> his own Work of Genius as probably surpass<sup>g</sup> Homer & Milton.

Mr. Baldwin saw him this Spring. He told him that if the Towns E. of Connect. River were confirmed to Vermont & so Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. fall within that State, the Acad<sup>y</sup> at Bennington would be so discouraging that he shd not go—that he has done studying the Law—that his School is worth £200 a year silver—that a Subscription was talk<sup>d</sup> of for a Professorship in Y. Coll. by some of M<sup>r</sup> D—— friends. It is proposed that he shd be recommended to the Corporation. Will his Loftiness endure to be in a Professorship below Mr. Baldwin? He is chagrined & mortified—does not intend to spend Life in his N<sup>o</sup> Hampton School—determined against settl<sup>g</sup> in the Min<sup>y</sup> tho' he preaches constantly for 5 Doll. old way ~~th~~ Sabbath—He is waiting for the meditated stroke upon Yale College. How wonderful that Harvard College don't elect him President? He meditates great Things & nothing but great Things will serve him—& every Thing that comes in the Way of his preferment must fall before him. Aut Cæsar, aut nullus.

#### TRUSTEES OF BENNINGTON ACAD<sup>y</sup>.

Governor for the time being.

Judge Robinson, Ch. Just. Sup. C<sup>t</sup> of Bennington.

Rector M<sup>r</sup> Dwight Elect.

Isaac Tichyner Esq. } of Bennington

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> Avery

Rev. M<sup>r</sup> of W<sup>m</sup>s<sup>t</sup>own

Ezra Stiles Esq.

Judge Spooner

Colonel Walbridge of Bennington

Mr. Tim<sup>o</sup> Dwight

D<sup>r</sup> Turner of Lebanon

Sir :

YALE COLL. Apr. 26, 1781.

As a Testimony of their most affectionate Respect the Presid<sup>t</sup> & Fellows of this University, have this day unanimously conferred upon your Excellency the Degree of the Doctorate in Laws; of which I am now in their name to ask your Acceptance. We cannot add to the Accumulation of Glory which shines around the Name of Washington; and which none but himself thinks un-



merited. But we are ambitious of the honor of enroll<sup>g</sup> his Name in our Register & Archives, among those whose literary Merits entitle them to the highest academical Dignities. The Diploma cannot be prepared and authenticated till the next Meeting of the Senatus Academicus which will be in Sept. next, when it will be duly transmitted to you. With the highest Respect for the Patriot, the Warrior, and the Civilian, I have the honor to be

Your Excellency's most obed<sup>t</sup>  
very humb. serv<sup>t</sup>

His Excell<sup>y</sup> Geo. Wash. Esq. LL.D.  
General & Command<sup>r</sup> in Chief of  
the Army of the United States.<sup>1</sup>

EZRA STILES President.

May.

2. Money is depreciated surprizingly. Continental 300 Dollars for one Silver Dollar in N<sup>c</sup> Carolina—in Virginia not so much—in Maryld it stops passing. N<sup>c</sup> Car<sup>a</sup> have Ten Million pounds on the credit of that State: Virg. Thirty Millions. At Philad<sup>a</sup> Continental is 150 for 1. At New Haven 100 for 1. At Boston 130 for 1.—All running into Confusion & Crisis as to money! In time however Money matters will come right.

There are but Eight States now represented in Congress & of the N. Engld. States only 1, Massachusetts. N. York & Delaware unrepresented: The President of Congress Mr. Huntington, is return<sup>g</sup> next Week. A critical period! Unto thee, O God would we lift our Eyes & in thee put all our Trust.

3. Continental Fast. Mr. Tutor Atwater preached A.M., and P.M. I preached Exod. xxxiv, 8, 9. Peach Trees in Bloom.

Alarmed by the En<sup>y</sup> I sent this Book & other Papers out of Town a few miles. And 29<sup>th</sup> May brot it home, & made the follow<sup>g</sup> Entries from a Loose paper of Memoirs.

4. Alarm at N. H. Advice 400 Refugees & 800 British at Huntington embark<sup>d</sup> for N. Haven. People removing their Families & Effects. Voluntary Town meet<sup>g</sup> convened on this occasion; only 50 present—some remov<sup>d</sup>—more timid. Two thirds of the T<sup>o</sup> disheartened. Examin<sup>a</sup> of the Sophimores who exhibited Orations & Dialogues. Reading philosophical Tracts in Acta Lipsiensia. Militia called in.

5. Present in Town 12 Sen. 13 Jun. 27 Soph. 42 Fr. Tot. 94. Examined the Freshmen—Orat. &c, and thus finished the Examin<sup>a</sup> of the 4 Classes, which approved themselves with Honor. The Militia coming into Town.

<sup>1</sup> Another leaf of the Diary is here missing.

6. Ldsdy. I preached A.M. 2 Tim 1, 9 & administered the Sacrament 9 present. Sir Austin preached P.M. . . . . At VI<sup>h</sup> manè Alarm Guns were fired at Black rock fort—several of the En<sup>y</sup>s Boats passed near shore at 5 m. p<sup>r</sup> as if to land but passed eastward.

7. Dean Berkleys Examin<sup>a</sup> for the best Classic Scholars in Lat. & Gr. in the Senior Sophisters. Hen. Trevett Channing first & Enoc Perkins 2<sup>d</sup> Dean. Rev. Bela Hubb<sup>d</sup> Episc<sup>o</sup> Clergyman present this year, tho' not last. Vacation begins. I dismissed College for 3 Weeks. In town only 9 Sen. 7 Jun. 20 Soph. & 31 Freshmen. Tot. 67.

9. I sat out on a Journey to Hartford, Woodstock & Springf<sup>d</sup> and returned May 28<sup>th</sup>.

#### EXTRACTS FROM MY ITINERARY.<sup>1</sup>

10. At the General Election at Hartford His Excellency Gov. Trumbull & his Hon. D. G. Griswold re-established. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Moses Mather preached the Elect. Sermon—about fourty Ministers only present, & not a large Election it being stormy. Examined & admitted Sam<sup>l</sup> Taylor, Freshman.

13. Ldsdy. I preached all day at Hebron for the Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy æt. 86.

15. At Mansfield. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Richard Salter this day executed a Deed of 200 Acres of Land with a House upon it lying in Mansfield & now renting for £22. Silver Money per ann. to the President & Fellows of Yale College for endowing a Professorship of Hebrew & other Oriental Languages in Yale College—to be known & take Effect after his Death.<sup>2</sup>

16. Visited my uncle the Rev<sup>d</sup> Abel Stiles at Woodstock æt 72. Orchards in Bloom.

18. Left Woodstock. Dined at Rev. Mr. Payns in Sturbridge. He has a son in the freshman Class, Cambridge, w<sup>o</sup> consists of 47. Lodged at Rev. Mr. W<sup>ms</sup> of Brimfd.

20. Ldsdy. at Chicabee in Springfield. Preached all day for the Rev. M<sup>r</sup> M<sup>c</sup>Kinsty . . . .

21. Visited my Relations at Westfield, the Place of my Mothers Nativity.

22. Lodged at Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Brecks of Springfield . . . .

<sup>1</sup> A few additional extracts are now inserted.

<sup>2</sup> Dr. Salter died in 1787, and this Fund is now held at \$3700.

23. Dined with the Rev<sup>d</sup> & venerable Stephen Williams, D.D. æt. 88. this week—who gave me much antique Information.

I rode to Somers & lodged at Cousin Reynolds.<sup>1</sup>

24. Dined at Enfield: and rode to Windsor.

25. At Windsor I examined the son of Rev. Jos. Strong late of Symsb<sup>y</sup> & tho æt. 26. admitted him into the Freshman Class. This makes our fresh. Class 60, while that of Cambridge is 47.

26. At Hartford, where the Assembly are still sitting. Had much Convers<sup>a</sup> with the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Strong who was desired by others to converse with me upon a plan for a Subscription for a Professorship of French. It is proposed that the Trustees as a board of Civilians (hereafter to be united with the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of College) should be nominated by the upper house & a Committee of Assembly from each County—and the Trustees to perpetuate themselves in their own Election. A Don<sup>o</sup> to be raised by subscription upon such a plan. Mr. Strong presented a Scioptic Glass to the College. Dined at Col. Chesters in Weathersfd.

27. Ldsdy. I preached all day for B<sup>r</sup> Hubb<sup>s</sup> at Meriden.

28. Dined at Dr. Danas.

Returned to College—& set up College Orders. . . . Received a Letter of Thanks from his Excell<sup>y</sup> Gen. Washington acknowledging the Doctorate in Law which we conferred upon him.

#### MEMOIRS OF DR PUMROY OF HEBRON.

1704. Nov. 19. O. S. Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Benj<sup>i</sup> Pumroy born at Suffield.

1733. Sept. æt. 29. Graduated A.B. at Yale Coll. where he & D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock were the first Dean Scholars & rec<sup>d</sup> the Don<sup>a</sup> for 1 years Residence.<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary for Jan. 28, 1775.

<sup>2</sup> President Stiles has entered in his Itinerary the following statement :

HEBRON, May 12, 1781.

This may certify, at the Request of the Rev<sup>d</sup> President E. Stiles, that the Reverend D<sup>r</sup> Eleazar Wheelock late President of Dartmouth College, and myself, were in May 1733 when Senior Sophisters in Yale College, publickly examined as Candidates for Dean Berkeleys Donation, and approved: and in consequence thereof we both lived at College in the year 1734 as Residentiary Bachelors of Arts upon the Deans Foundation, and received of the Rents of the Deans Farm at Rhode Isld the sum of Thirty two pounds, which was equally divided between us, so that we shared £16 each for said years Residence. We did not reside at College afterwards. We were the first Dean Scholars, and



1735. Dec. 16, æt. 31, ordained Pastor of the Chh. of Hebron.  
 1741. Deeply affected with the Revival of Religion.  
 17    Became one of the Board for M<sup>r</sup> Wheelock's Indian School.  
 1769. A Trustee of Dartmouth College.  
 1774. Received the Degree of S. T. D. from President Wheelock.

Extract of an Elegy of Rev. Jn<sup>o</sup> Wilson of Medfield upon the Rev<sup>d</sup> Ralph Wheelock.

In Sixteen hundred thirty seven  
 It was he hither came  
 When spread there was the Leaven  
 of Heresy by Name.

He came a Minister from Engld. 1637, lived & died at Medfield, preached much at Dedham, but was never settled in the Ministry. He taught School, & died at Medfield æt. 84, as Mrs. Pumroy tells me, who is Sister to President Wheelock. She says he was alive in the memory of her Father Deacon Ralph Wheelock who died at Hebron or Windham Oct. 15, 1748, æt. 66. So he must have been living after 1690. He left two Sons Eleazar & Samuel. Presid<sup>t</sup> Wheelock was son of Deacon Ralph Wheelock of Windham who removed thither from Medfield, son of Eleazar Wheelock son of Rev<sup>d</sup> Ralph W. the first ancestor. The Ancestor had a Daughter born at Sea on the passage over in 1637. Mrs. Pumroy is now living æt. 64. I rec<sup>d</sup> this from her. The Mother of Pres<sup>t</sup> W. was a Huntington of Norwich—from her he received his ambitious & enterpriz<sup>s</sup> spirit, from his father his Piety or rather pious complexion.

#### CONVERS<sup>A</sup> WITH DR WILLIAMS.

Rev. D<sup>r</sup> Stephen W<sup>ms</sup> of Longmeadow now æt. 88 gave me much entertaining & antient Information. He entered Harvard Coll. at Commencem<sup>t</sup> 1709; but don't remember the Disput<sup>a</sup> of an Admiral first with one of the Candidates Masters (Mr. Fisher)<sup>1</sup> as he thinks he was not present at Commenc<sup>t</sup> Afternoon Exercises all the time. He gave me a very particular Acc<sup>o</sup> of Presid<sup>t</sup> Leverett, his person, this upon the Deans first Deed, in which provision was made for two Scholars of the house in a Class, tho' this was afterwards altered.

(Signed)

BENJ<sup>s</sup> POMROY, D.D.

N.B.—The Rent was £70 but the Expences in assembling the Trustees and transact<sup>s</sup> the matter, left only £32 for the Deans Scholars. Dr. Pomroy is now nearly blind.

<sup>1</sup> See this Diary April 22, 1776.

manners, Literary Character—as a good Scholar, but not the best—very good in Latin, Gr. & Heb.,—not extraord<sup>y</sup> in Math. & Phil.—but excellent in Reasoning, Judg<sup>t</sup> & Government. Of great Dignity in his Manner. At Commencem<sup>t</sup> he spoke Latin slowly deliberately & distinctly, not with Volubility & vernacular Freedom, & yet not seeming to want Words, but deliberately & well. Governed well & with Awe & Terror. Presid<sup>t</sup> Leverett preached when a young man & while Fellow of the College, but never preached after he became President. The Sen. Tutor instructed two Classes, the two other Tutors each their Class; the Pres<sup>t</sup> had none, but expounded the Scriptures twice a Week publicly in the Hall. He was upon the Tenth Chapter of Genesis the most of D<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> residence at College. Tho' never ordained he constantly wore a Band, after he came to the Chair, as did Mr. Flynt sometimes tho' only a Tutor. He had the title of Rev<sup>d</sup> & Honorable. He died suddenly May 3, 1724.

Gov. Stoughton built a College Edifice called after his Name; for which the Corpor<sup>a</sup> complemented him with the Appointment of a Tutor; upon which, without Judg<sup>t</sup>, he chose Mr. Flynt son of the Rev. Mr. Flynt his Minister. This circumstance introduced into office one not well qualified, who yet resided many years in College as Tutor. He was not considered as a good Tutor so early as D<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> Day at College. Upon Mr. Remingtons Resign<sup>a</sup> of the Tutorship, Mr. Stevens was elected Tutor, & afterwards in 1712 Holyoke was elected Tutor, as he was afterwards President. Altho' Mr. Holyoke was the youngest Tutor, yet D<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> Class, when Seniors, were put under him at his first coming, in order to study Mathematics, for which he was then eminent. Ex ore D<sup>r</sup> Williams.

#### CONVERS<sup>A</sup> WITH D<sup>R</sup> PUMROY.

The Rev. Jn<sup>o</sup> Bliss first Pastor of Hebron resigned about ——— and Rev<sup>d</sup> D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy ordained there 16 Dec. 1735. D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock ordained at Lebanon Crank the June preceed<sup>e</sup>. Both adopted Pres<sup>t</sup> Claps Idea of a Chh. Committee for Discipline, as near the Kirk model as the sp<sup>t</sup> of these Chhs would admit. D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy could not carry it into Execution; but D<sup>r</sup> Wheelock did for many years, tho' opposed by some Congregational Brethren w<sup>c</sup> came from Cape Cod. Both agreed in their Idea that all youth of competent doctrinal Knowledge & good morals should be early brought to the Lds Table, without any Reference to their Regeneration & Conversion.

This is D<sup>r</sup> Pumroys present practice, who admits to full Communion after propounding without any Chh Vote private or public. When he first settled his Chh required written Relations of Experiences, & voted at Admissions. But in the great Revival of Religion 1741 so many flocked into the Chh. the Relations were impracticable & were dropt. Voting continued some time after, but dropt now for many years. I had thought that D<sup>r</sup> W. & D<sup>r</sup> P. had borrowed their Ideas of Chh. Gov<sup>t</sup> from their Acquaint<sup>a</sup> & Connex. with the Jersey Ministers after 1740, but it was otherwise.

D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy also tells me that M<sup>r</sup> West of Stockbridge & his Chh. have lately refused Communion to one of his Hebron Chh recommended to the Chh. of Stockbridge by D<sup>r</sup> Pumroy. He judges Hebron Chh to be antichristian. D<sup>r</sup> P. anathemized Ministers & Chhs. in 1740—now it is his Turn.

D<sup>r</sup> Stephen W<sup>ms</sup> told me that the Rev. Mr. Glover of Springfield Rev. Mr. Brinsmead of Marlboro' Rev<sup>d</sup>. Mr. Torry of Weymouth very eminent Ministers in their day, were among those who were educated at Harv. Coll. but refused to take their Degree about 1654; because it was then first determined that Scholars shld reside four years at College before they might expect a Degree; whereas before & until that time, they were required to reside but 3 years. These being refused their Deg. at the End of 3 years took an affront. This occasioned the Insertion in the Catalogue at the year 1653 when the Term for tak<sup>g</sup> the Masters Degree was extended to 3 years after the Bachelors Degree. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Tim<sup>o</sup> Edwards of Windsor (Father of Presid<sup>t</sup> Edw<sup>ds</sup>) did not go to College, but was educated in liberal Learning by Mr. Glover and afterwards at a public Commencement at Cambridge he performed public Academic Exercises & received a Bachelors Degree in the Forenoon, & took a Masters Degree with the Class in the Afternoon. He made a Poem on M<sup>r</sup> Glover's Death.

Diploma Rev<sup>di</sup> Joannis McKinstry qui natus fuit in Comitatu de Antrim in Hibernia, liberaliter institutus in Universitate Edinensi; et A. D. 1717 transfretavit ad Americam, degens primo Bostoniæ, deinde in Schola Miltoniensi ubi amicitiam inivit & consortium Rev<sup>di</sup> D. Thacher, cujus nutu Candidatum se sistebat Ministerij evangelici. Pastor ordinatus fuit Ecclesiæ Suttoniæ, postea Ecclesiæ Ellingtonianæ, ubi emoriebatur circa A. D. 1753, Ætat. 78. Pater ille fuit Amici mei Rev<sup>di</sup> D. Johannis McKinstry



Ecclesiæ Chicabeensis sive tertiæ de Springfield Pastoris fidelis ;  
à cujus manibus accepi hocce.

## DIPLOMA.

"Ne quem fortè lateat cujus scire interest, Nos Universitatis Jacobi Regis Edinensis Professores Testamur hunc Juvenem Johannem McKinstrie Hibernum, postquam Philosophiæ et humanioribus Literis eâ morum Integritate & Modestiâ (quæ ingenuum decebat Adolescentem) apud Nos vacasset, eoque præstitisset omnia quæ Disciplinæ Ratio et Academiæ Consuetudo præscripserat ; Tandem consensu Senatus Academici MAGISTRUM in Artibus liberalibus rite renunciatur Cunctaque consecutum Privilegia quæ bonarum Artium Magistris uspiam concedi solent ; cujus Rei quo major esset fides, Sigillum Incltyti Senatores Edinensis Athenæi Curatores & Patroni, Nos Chirographa Apposimus IV Kal. M.DCC.XII.

Datum Edinburgi

JOH. GOODALL L. P. P.

LAU. DUNDASS H. L. P.

ROBERTUS HENDERSON B.  
& Acad. ab Archivis.

GULIELMUS HAMILTON SS. T. P.

GULIELMUS LAW p.p.

GULIELMUS SCOTT P. P.

ROBERTUS STEWART, p. p.

COL. DRUMOND, P. P.

JO. GREGORY, Math. P.

Spring Vacation ended & I set up College Orders. Mr. Tutor Fitch came in this Even<sup>g</sup>.

29. Began Recitations. M<sup>r</sup> Tutors Atw<sup>a</sup> & Meigs came in.

30. Gen. Greene lately had an Action with the British at Cambden N<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> & lost it. There are about 3000 Brit. with Gen. Philips & Arnold at Williamsburg in Virginia. They pushed out a dozen miles to Petersburg, where Gen. the Baron de Steuben commanded 1000 Militia & was obliged to leave the T<sup>o</sup> after fighting on the Retreat. Afterwards G. Philips with his Corps left W<sup>ms</sup>burg & marched, pushing thro' to Ld. Cornwallis on his Retreat to Wilmington in N<sup>o</sup> Carolina.<sup>1</sup>

## June

1. Employed with the Tutors in designating & appoint<sup>s</sup> Examina<sup>a</sup> & Commencem<sup>t</sup> Exercises for the Candidates of both Degrees.

<sup>1</sup> An entry of six lines, under May 31, has here been erased : it seems to describe a visit of Mr. Dwight to College, and to refer to his hope of obtaining twenty or thirty scholars from College for his school, in which he has been disappointed.

The Seniors reciting Lock. Undergraduates present 6 Sen., 5 Jun., 20 Soph., 23 Fresh. Total 54.

2. Seniors recite Vincent's Catechism. Report of a naval Engag<sup>t</sup> in the West Indies. Last Week Boston Merch<sup>ts</sup> refused Continental Money.

3. Ldsdy. A. M. I preached in the Chapel 1 Cor. xv, 28, a hard Text! P.M. Mr. Tutor Atwater preached in the Chapel. Reading Lockyers Sermons—and Mede on Millennium. After Meet<sup>g</sup> half a dozen Quaker Men & 3 Quaker Women travell<sup>d</sup> towds General Meeting Rh. Isld. held a religious public Meeting in the Court-house in this Town. A Concourse attended—the Spirit moved—and they spoke.

4. Ideis sensibilibus externi nulli competunt archetypi. Baldwin Resp.

5. Whether the highest Liberty is consistent with the highest Moral Necessity. Disputed by the Seniors extemporaneously. On the 26<sup>th</sup> ult. died at Stonington the Rev<sup>d</sup> Joseph Fish æt. 76, and in the 49<sup>th</sup> year of his Ministry. An evangelical & eminent Preacher & a pious & truly venerable character.

6. Professor Strong held his philosophical Lecture—the Lunar Path is always concave toward the Sun—& not an Epicycloid. After Even<sup>g</sup> prayers I published the Adjudications of Prizes at Dean's Examination of 7<sup>th</sup> last month.

7. I gave Lect. on Saybrook Platform. Examined and readmitted Lord into the Sophomore Class.<sup>1</sup> Isaac desirous of leaving College. The Empress of Russia by her Ambassadors at the Courts of London & Holl<sup>d</sup> propose a mediation with the belligerent Powers. Tot. Undergrad. present 100.

8. . . . . I published in the Chapel the follow<sup>g</sup> Appointments in the Senior Class.

#### FOR JULY EXAMINATION

Kent, Clisophic Orator in English.

Valedictory Orator in Lat. to be elected by the Class.

Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>

English Dialogue

Boardman

Atwater

Burrall

Parmelee

Searl

Perkins

Willams

<sup>1</sup> Lynde Lord had been dismissed on March 23, 1781, at his father's request.

## FOR THE COMMENCEMENT

Baldwin to make the Salutatory Oration in Latin.

Perkins to make an Oration in Greek.

Hinkly to make an Oration in English.

Channing

Gridly I

Kent

Stebbins

|                                                                                                  |                              |                                                                                               |                |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|
| $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Gridly I} \\ \text{Kent} \\ \text{Stebbins} \end{array} \right\}$ | forensic Disput <sup>a</sup> | $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Breed} \\ \text{Lankton} \\ \text{Smith} \end{array} \right\}$ | Eng. Dialogue. |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|

Isaacs, Wells, Wright Respond<sup>ts</sup> in Syllogistic Disputation.

9. The Seniors presented me their Election of Gridly for Valedictory Orator, whom I approved. . . . .

10. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached in Coll. Chapel on the Ministration of Guardian Angels from Ps. xxiv, 7. Martyrs & departed Saints become Angels Rev. xix, 10 & xxii, 9. P.M. Mr. Avery preached in the Chapel & I preached for Mr. Mather taken with vomiting Blood in Foren. Exercise. 2 Cor. v, 20.

11. Cogitatio superat Vires Materiæ. Miller Resp. Ld Cornwallis is ravaging Virginia, & it is said has reached as high as Alexandria on Potomack River, & within less than 100 miles of Baltimore in Maryland. Our Forces in that part are commanded by Baron de Steuben & the Marquiss de la Fayette—while Gen. Green is at Cambden & in the Confines between N<sup>o</sup> & S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. It is said that the Kings Forces in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>a</sup> are about 1000 at Charlest<sup>o</sup> & 4 or 500 under Ld Rawdon at Cambden:—in Virginia phps 5000 under L<sup>d</sup> Cornwallis and Arnold:—at N. York phps. 3 or 4000. Shall Virginia, shall America suffer these to conquer them? Shall fewer than 12 Thous<sup>d</sup> Europeans conquer six hundred Thous<sup>d</sup>? even suppose one Third of these Tories or Timids? But it is wise in Providence that every part of the Continent sh<sup>d</sup> taste the Chastism<sup>t</sup> of the War, & be forever weaned from Britain by a Taste of British Clemency & Cruelty. The British Stroke at the Dutch is great, they have taken Eustatia, & Berbice—it is said their Expresses sent viâ Levant to cross from the head of the Mediterranean to India, are taken & carried into Venice. By these means the Dutch E. Indies were to have been surprized. Therm<sup>o</sup> 80.

12. Whether the Mind always thinks? Seniors Disput<sup>a</sup>. Examined & admitted Curtiss & Sanford into the Freshman Class for special Reasons. The Freshman Class now consists of 61—the



largest class ever admitted in Yale College—larger than ever was in an American College before, except that w<sup>c</sup> graduated at Harvard College in 1771 which was 62.

13. Quarter Day. Of 160 Undergrad., 139 present. Public Exercises accord<sup>g</sup> to Appointments. Th. 80.

14. Examined Elijah Leonard of Raynham and admitted him into the Sophomore Class, he having entered Harv. Coll. two years ago. We have a very full College at present. G<sup>d</sup> grant us a studious & peaceable Session! Rev. Rosewell Eliot of Watert<sup>o</sup> here, he is one of the Overseers of Harv. College. He tells me the Total of Undergrad. there is 140 of which 47 Freshmen—ours 61. He says that Professor Wigglesworth is the presiding Fellow at College. There is to be a public Commenc<sup>t</sup> at w<sup>c</sup> Mr. Wigg. is to preside. The Gent. talked of for President are Rev<sup>d</sup> Mess<sup>rs</sup> Shute, Williams, Willard, Adams &c. . . . .

15. I had no Lecture-yesterday—nor Mr. Strong the day before. The French Army left Newp<sup>t</sup> last Sabbath & set out to joyn G. Washington on N<sup>o</sup> River. . . .

16. Seniors began to recite Presid<sup>t</sup> Claps Ethics.

17. Ldsdy. Mr. Avery supplied the Chapel all day. A. M. he preached for Mr. Whittelsey & Mr. Whitt<sup>y</sup> preached in the Chapel. P. M. he preached in Chapel himself. I preached all day for Mr. Mather who is sick and unable to go abroad; and baptized Isaac the son of David Munson & his Wife.

19. No forensic Dispute, I being absent at Carmel. I received of Treasurer Trumbull £75. = £60. Bills of Exch<sup>a</sup> upon France as part of my Salary.

20. I began with one half of the Freshman Class in Hebrew.

21. I gave my Lect. on Eccl. History.

22. The Seniors finished reciting the 2<sup>nd</sup> Vol. of Locke on hum. Unders<sup>sdg</sup>. Present 147 Undergrad. Abs. 13, of w<sup>c</sup> 3 for poverty 2 for sickness. Of the 147, 67 live in the College Edifice & 80 abroad in Town. . . . .

[The following Catalogue of the members of College rooms' at this date is found on a separate sheet :

<sup>1</sup> These rooms were in the building later known as South Middle College and still standing. The sixteen rooms on the front or east side were numbered from 1 to 16 E., beginning with the South fourth story front and going across the front in each story in order; similarly on the west side, beginning with the North end.

## SENIORS

|                   |                                  |
|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Atwater           | N <sup>o</sup> 1 E.              |
| Baldwin           | Mr. Isaac Beers                  |
| Boardman          | Mr. Baldwins                     |
| Breed             | N <sup>o</sup> 11 E.             |
| Burrall           | Mr. Baldwin                      |
| Channing          | N <sup>o</sup> 1 E.              |
| Farrand           | N <sup>o</sup> 6 E.              |
| Gridly 1          | Mr. Barney, with Smith           |
| Hinkly 1          | Mr. Isaac Beers                  |
| Isaacs            | Mr. Burr                         |
| Kent              | No. 4 E.                         |
| Lankton           | Joel Atwater                     |
| Miller            | Mrs. Sheldon                     |
| Newell            | N <sup>o</sup> 11 E, eats abroad |
| Noyes 1           | N <sup>o</sup> 10 E.             |
| Parmelee          | No. 1 E.                         |
| Perkins           | Mr. Shermans                     |
| Searl             | Mr. Tuttle                       |
| Smith 1           | Mr. Barney                       |
| Stebbins          | Mr. ———                          |
| Tomlinson         | Mr. Atwater, Joel                |
| Welles 1          | N <sup>o</sup> 6 E.              |
| W <sup>ms</sup> 1 | Mr. Tutor Atwater                |
| Wooster 1         | N <sup>o</sup> 10 E.             |
| Wooster 2         | Mr. Ogdens                       |
| Wright            | N <sup>o</sup> 4 E               |

26

## JUNIORS

|                   |                                              |
|-------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| Bowen             | Mr. Sabins                                   |
| Canfield          | N <sup>o</sup> 7 W.                          |
| Cornell           | N <sup>o</sup> 1 W.                          |
| Crocker           | Mr. Shermans Shop                            |
| Dana              | Leave abs. under Mr. Lewis                   |
| Fuller 1          | Rusticated                                   |
| Garnsey           | Mr. Baldwins                                 |
| Honeywood         | N <sup>o</sup> 1 W.                          |
| Hooker            | Abs. with Leave                              |
| Ives              | N <sup>o</sup> 2 E.                          |
| King              | Mr. Jno. Mix                                 |
| Lovett            | Mrs. Beers                                   |
| Merwin            | Mr. Beers                                    |
| Noyes 2           | N <sup>o</sup> 5 W.                          |
| Robbins           | Abs.                                         |
| Root              | N <sup>o</sup> 7 W.                          |
| Selden 1          | N <sup>o</sup> 3 E.                          |
| Sturgess          | N <sup>o</sup> 5 W.                          |
| Smith 2           | N <sup>o</sup> 2 E.                          |
| Thompson          | N <sup>o</sup> 7 W.                          |
| Wait              | N <sup>o</sup> 9 W. eats at<br>Capt. Munsons |
| Warner 1          | N <sup>o</sup> 3 E.                          |
| Willard           | N <sup>o</sup> 1 W.                          |
| W <sup>ms</sup> 2 | Mr. Jn <sup>o</sup> Mix                      |
| Woodruff 1        | N <sup>o</sup> 9 W.                          |

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## SOPHIMORES

|            |                      |             |                                                     |
|------------|----------------------|-------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Adams }    | Mr. Pierponts        | Johnson     | Mr. Woodhull                                        |
| Brainerd } |                      | Joslyn      | at his Fathers                                      |
| Austin     | his Fathers          | Kingsbury   | N <sup>o</sup> 4 W.                                 |
| Brown 1    | N <sup>o</sup> 10 W. | Lewis       | Mr. Joel Atwater                                    |
| Brown 2    | N <sup>o</sup> 6 W.  | Lord 1      | Mr. Joel Atwaters &<br>study at Rev. Mr.<br>Mathers |
| Cole       | Mr. Joel Atwater     |             |                                                     |
| Colton     |                      | Lyman 1     | Mr. Tutor Meigs                                     |
| Cook       | No. 11 W.            | Masters 1 } | N <sup>o</sup> 2 W.                                 |
| Dimon      | No. 9 W.             | Masters 2 } | eats abroad                                         |
| Edwards    | Rev. Mr. Edwds.      | Merick      | N <sup>o</sup> 12 W.                                |
| Fowler 1   | Mr. Mansfield        | Morse       | Joel Atwater                                        |
| Fuller 2   | No. 12 W.            | Pearce      | N <sup>o</sup> 6 W.                                 |
| Gilbert    | his Fathers          | Peas        | N <sup>o</sup> 8 W.                                 |
| Goodrich 1 | Mr. Tutor Fitch      | Penfield    | at the Presidents                                   |
| Gould      | Mr. Woodhulls        | Phelps      | N <sup>o</sup> 8 W.                                 |
| Gridly 2   | Mr. Joel Atwater     | Pitkin      | Dr. Northrops                                       |
| Griggs     | Stewards             | Ripley      | Dr. Northrops                                       |
| Hall       | Mr. Joel Atwater     | Selden 2    | Mrs Grants                                          |
| Holmes 1   | Mr. Munsons          |             |                                                     |

|           |                                               |                   |                         |
|-----------|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------|-------------------------|
| Smith 2   | N <sup>o</sup> 9 W.                           | Weed              | Mr. St. Munsons with    |
| Spencer 1 | Study Rev. Mr. Math-<br>ers ; eat at Mr. Joel | White             | Holmes 1                |
|           | Atwaters                                      | W <sup>ms</sup> 3 | Mrs Grants              |
| Spencer 2 | Stewards                                      | Williston         | Mr. Joel Atwater        |
| Stiles    | his Fathers                                   |                   | Mr. Hotchkiss & eat     |
| Storrs    | Mr. Hotchkiss & eat                           | Wolcott           | in Hall                 |
|           | in Hall                                       | Leonard           | N <sup>o</sup> 12 W. 47 |
| Warner 2  | his fathers                                   |                   | N <sup>o</sup> 11 W.    |

(Admitted June 14, 1781)

## FRESHMEN

|                 |                              |                   |                                  |
|-----------------|------------------------------|-------------------|----------------------------------|
| Augur 1         | } their Fathers              | Huggins           | his Fathers                      |
| Augur 2         |                              | Huntington        | N <sup>o</sup> 14 W.             |
| Ball            |                              | Isaacs            | Mr. Tutor Fitch                  |
| Barns           | N <sup>o</sup> 16 E.         | Leavenworth       | his Fathers                      |
| Basset          | Mr. Bradly                   | Lee               | Deacon Balls & in                |
| Bliss           | Deacon Balls                 |                   | Commons                          |
| Bradly 1        | Mr. Baldwins                 | Lord 2            | No. 14 E.                        |
| Bradly 2        | his Fathers                  | Lyman 2           | No. 14 W.                        |
| Bristol         | Mr. Woodhull                 | Mansfield         | Dr. Beardsley's shop             |
| Brown 3         | Mrs. Sheldon                 | Marsh             | No. 13 W.                        |
| Caldwel 1 Harry | Mrs. Sheldons shop           | Mather            | No. 15 E.                        |
| Caldwel 2       | Old Coll. <sup>1</sup>       | Mead              | Deacon Balls & in                |
| Catlin 1        | Buttery                      |                   | Commons                          |
| Catlin 2        | N <sup>o</sup> 14 E.         | Munson            | his Fathers                      |
| Cogswell        |                              | Prentice          | Do.                              |
| Cone            | N <sup>o</sup> 13 E.         | Roe               | W <sup>o</sup> Mansfields        |
| Curtiss 1       | N <sup>o</sup> 3 W.          | Sage              | Old Coll. 3d Loft                |
| Denison         | N <sup>o</sup> 14 W.         | Seward            | No. 16 W.                        |
| Dering          | Dr. Northrops                | Spencer 3         | No. 13 E.                        |
| Douw            | N <sup>o</sup> 16 E.         | Squire            | No. 13 W.                        |
| Eliot           | Capt. Munsons                | Strong            | No. 15 W.                        |
| Fowler 2        | N <sup>o</sup> 15 E.         | Taylor            | No. 15 W.                        |
| Goodrich 2      | N <sup>o</sup> 3 W.          | Tuttle            | at his Fathers                   |
| Greene          | Mr. Tutor Atwater            | Waklee            | W <sup>o</sup> Mansfields [Sher- |
| Gridly 2        | Mr. Jn <sup>o</sup> Mix A.M. |                   | mans Shop]                       |
| Hart            | N <sup>o</sup> 16 E.         | Welles 2          | Old Coll. 3 <sup>d</sup> Loft    |
| Hinckly 2       | Mr. Is. Beers—eat            | Wildman           |                                  |
|                 | in Commons                   | W <sup>ms</sup> 4 |                                  |
| Hinman 1        | N <sup>o</sup> 3 W.          | Woodruff          | Mr. Jn <sup>o</sup> Mix, A.M.    |
| Hinman 2        | Mr. Beecher                  | Woolworth         | No. 16 W. 59                     |
| Holmes 2        | N <sup>o</sup> 13 E.         | Curtiss 2         | No. 14 W.                        |
| Holt            | Mr. Baldwins                 | Sanford           | No. 15 W.]                       |
| Hubbard         | Mr. Tutor Fitch              |                   | (Admitted June 12, 1781)         |

<sup>1</sup> The Old or original College building, on the site of Osborn Hall, was almost in ruins ; three Freshmen appear to have had rooms there, and the Dining room and Buttery were still in use.



23. The Rev. Mr. Sherman of Milford at his earnest Desire was dismissed from his pastoral charge there on thursday 21<sup>st</sup> Instant, by an ecclesiastical Council of four neighboring Pastors called in by himself & his Chh. He is dismissed & recommended in Character. Neither Error nor Immorality were the cause, but an unhappy Controversy arisen in Town between the 2 Chhs. & their Ministers<sup>1</sup> made his Life uncomfortable, espec<sup>y</sup> with a slender Support.—I am full of Destress on account of melancholly news from my Son at Vermont. I received a Letter from him yesterday, dated Bennington 17<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> the Assembly then sitting there : and two men arrived here this day, who left Benn<sup>g</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> & confirm his disagreeable Situation. The good Lord prepare us for all that is before us.

24. Ldsdy. I preached at Chapel A.M. Ps. cxxxviii, 2 ; present phps 110 Undergrad. besides 19 Tut. & Grad. Mr. Avery supplied us P.M. by preach<sup>g</sup> for Mr. Edwards who preached an excellent Sermon in Chapel Prov. iii. 17. I have had a very heavy day ! altho' thank G<sup>d</sup>, some delightful Enlargem<sup>ts</sup> in divine Service & the duties of the Sabbath. Reading Gale's Sermons. I notified the Sacr<sup>t</sup> of the Lds Supper next Ldsdy, & propounded Samuel Austin & Jon<sup>a</sup> Fuller two of the Sophomore Class for admission.

26. . . . . I gave the subjects for Commencem<sup>t</sup> Exercises to the Senior Class. This Afternoon arrived and encamped here the Duke de Lazun with his Legion consist<sup>g</sup> of 300 Horse & 300 foot Light Infantry. They pitched their Tents in the new Town half a mile East of the College. I paid my Respects to the Duke and was received very politely at the House of the late Gen. Wooster.<sup>2</sup> He does not expect much from the Congress at Vienna, nor does he expect Peace this year or next. He is marching to joyn G. Washington on N<sup>o</sup> River.

27. The French Troops marched at six o'clock this morn<sup>g</sup> in their way thro' Darby . . . .

28. I am full of Destress about my son Ezra ; and am prepar<sup>g</sup> to set out on a Journey to Vermont.

<sup>1</sup> The minister of the other (and much larger) Church and Society was the Rev. Samuel Wales (Yale 1767), who became in 1782 Professor of Divinity in the College. The controversy referred to rumors circulated in the village which had intensified a not unnatural jealousy between the two Societies, and had led each minister to believe that the other was plotting against him.

<sup>2</sup> See this Diary, Sept. 3, 1779.

Removed my papers [returned them July 3].

29. Yesterday I had committed the Senior Class to M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater's care during my expected Absence, & I intended to have set out in the Afternoon. But am still waiting for further Intelligence fr. Vermont before I go : so heard the Seniors recite to-day. A heavy moist dense air endangers a Blast of the English Grains.

30. Doubting & delaying—a Glympse of Hope. A british fleet with 2 or 3000 arrived at Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> begin<sup>g</sup> June, landed some troops there, touched at Virg. & arrived at N. York lately. Report 300 Ld. Cornwallis' Lighthorse have attempted to surprize the Assembly of Virginia, & taken Gov. Jefferson. This Aft. a Man from within 12 M. of Bennington advises that all is well there with my son Ezra. I hope it is true.

## July

1. Ldsdy. A.M. Mr. Atwater preached Isai. lv, 2. P.M. the Rev. Mr. Bird preached in Chapel for Mr. Avery whom I employed. I admitted Sam<sup>l</sup> Austin & Jon<sup>a</sup> Fuller Sophimores into full Communion, & administered the Sacr<sup>t</sup> of the Lds. Supper there being 17 Communicants present. This Even<sup>g</sup>. I first received the Inform<sup>a</sup> brot into Town yesterday, and it affords great Conifort. The number present Sen. 26, Jun. 19, Soph. 45, Fr. 58. Tot. 148.

2. This Morn<sup>g</sup> rec<sup>d</sup> certain acc<sup>o</sup> of the Transactions before the Gen. Assembly in Vermont 20<sup>th</sup> ult. greatly to the honor of my son.<sup>1</sup> Deo O. M. Grates ! The Seniors Syllogistic Disput<sup>a</sup>, Etsi nulla esset Vita futura tamen Virtus esset colenda. Isaacs Resp.

3. I now begin to resume my Labors of Office with alacrity. The forensic Disput<sup>a</sup> Whether a public be preferable to a private Education? After Even<sup>g</sup> prayers I delivered a Dissertation in the Chapel upon the learned Professions, begin<sup>g</sup> with the *Medical Branch*. Gen. Greene is spread<sup>g</sup> Conquest thro' S<sup>o</sup> Carolina & into Georgia—Pensacola said to be taken by the Spaniards—the Maharrattas have risen & are tak<sup>g</sup> the English Factories & Settlem<sup>ts</sup> in the East Indies—a Congress is sitting at Vienna—G. Wash. is

<sup>1</sup> The published "Records of the Governor and Council of Vermont" (ii, 101-04) show that Ezra Stiles, Jr., was at this date a Representative for Keene, N. H., in the Vermont Assembly, and one of a committee charged with the inspection of the printing of an issue of bills of credit. He was accused before the Assembly of counterfeiting some of these bills—a capital crime : but was honorably acquitted.

moving his Army to White plains & draw<sup>s</sup> near N. York — The Enemys greatest Force (5 or 6000) is at Virginia under Cornwallis, but the Virginians are roused in active Exertion. Every thing wears a good Aspect, altho' every Nerve is in Exercise, a laborious & universal Exertion thro' the British Empire as if the throes & pangs & last dying struggle of an expiring Empire.

4. Anniversary of Indep. celebrated at New Haven. About 70 dined in the Statehouse—a feu de Joy by the State Troops stationed here & 13 Canon—Skyrockets in the Even<sup>g</sup>.

5. I gave my Lecture—the History of Yale College from its Found<sup>d</sup> 1700 as a religious as well as literary Society. The first Ins<sup>t</sup> G. Washingtons Army leav<sup>s</sup> White plains—& Gen. Rochambeau with 2000 French via Bedford marched for Kings Bridge. They met at Mile square four miles from Kingsbridge July 1 & 2 and encamped within a mile & half of Kingsbridge. G. Wash. & his Army march 35 miles in one day. The object F<sup>t</sup> Washington.

6. Very hot. Therm<sup>o</sup> 91° in N° Shade. So much has my time been taken up by the increasing cares of the College, that I have not had time to note the public Civil or military occurrences. Gen. Greene has had great success at the Southward . . . .

8. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the Chapel. A.M. Eph. i, 4, 5. P. M. James 1, 12. Reading Heinsii Exercitationes Sacrae.—Excessive hot: at X<sup>h</sup> Fahr. Therm<sup>o</sup> stood at 90: at noon 98: at I<sup>h</sup> P.M. 100. I<sup>3</sup>/<sub>4</sub> 99. IV<sup>h</sup> 96. VI<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 90. VII<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> 85. X 80.

9. Bellum utrinque non est licitum. Welles Resp.

10. Whether Literature flourished best under a Republic or Monarchy? G. Wash & Army returned to White Plains.

#### ACAD. EXERCISES FOR JULY EXAM. & COMMENCEMENT.

Kent—Cliosophic Oration in English.

Gridley—Val. Orat. Lat.

Boardman

Burral

Searl

Williams

Atwater

Parmelee

Wooster 2

Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup>

} Whether that Stage of Society, thro' w<sup>c</sup>  
America hath already past, be happier than  
that of any other Period?

} Dialogue on the 3 Learned Professions.



## COMMENCEMENT.

Baldwin—Salutatory Oration Latin

Perkins—Orat. in Greek, on Greek Learn<sup>g</sup>.

Hinkly—Orat. in Eng. on the Fine Arts &amp; belles Lettres.

Channing

Gridley

Kent

Stebbins

Forensic Disput<sup>a</sup> Eng.Whether the modern surpasses the antient  
Literature?

Dial. Eng.

Smith

Breed

Langdon

Which will demand the greatest attention &  
Encourag<sup>t</sup> in the present period of the  
Amer. States, *Agricult. Manufact. or Com-*  
*merce?*

Syllogistic Disputations Lat.

Etsi nulla esset vita futura tamen Virtus esset colenda.

Atwater

Boardman

Burrall

Farrand

Opponentes. Isaacs—Resp.

Bellum utrinque non est licitum.

Miller

Newell

Noyes

Pamele

Opponentes Welles Resp.

Necessitas moralis irresistibilis unacum Libertate perfectissima  
constat.

Searle

Tomlinson

Williams

Wooster 1

Wooster 2

Opponentes Wright—Resp.

11. The Baptist Chh in Philad<sup>a</sup> is rent in twain by a sore controversy. One Elhanan Winchester, a Baptist illiterate but talkative & selfconceited Elder of Rehoboth in Mass. Bay, has been preach<sup>d</sup> in the Bapt. Chh. in Philad<sup>a</sup> the Doctrine of the final Universal Salv<sup>a</sup> of Men & Devils. The 5<sup>th</sup> of last March the Congreg<sup>a</sup> took up the matter, when it appeared that Winchester had rather a

majority in his favor. Upon which sixty seven signed a Protest & Renunciation against him & his principles. He avowed the Doctrine in the presence of the Chh. & five Bapt. Ministers Apr. 3 1781. After attempt for healing, at length in a pub. Meet<sup>g</sup> of the Chh. & Congreg<sup>a</sup> agreeable to Advice of the Ministers these 67 Protesting Brethren & their Adherents publicly separated themselves fr. Mr. Winchester & party & declared themselves *the Baptist Chh* in Philad<sup>a</sup>, & renounced Elhanan Winchester. And on May 3<sup>d</sup> they procured another to preach to them—& afterwards resumed the possession of the Meet<sup>g</sup>house, from w<sup>c</sup> Winch. is excluded. This day Isaac carried Polly to Hebron to School.

12. I exhibited my Lecture on the Multiplic<sup>a</sup> of our Chhs.

13. I gave an Eveng. Lect. on Law & Jurisprudence.

14. The Spaniards have taken W. Florida.

15. Ldsdy. Mr. Tutor Atwater supplied the Chapel by Exchange with Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Williston who preached A.M. 1 Jno. v. 20. P.M. Prov. xxiii, 26.

16. Maxima Necessitas moralis unà cum Libertate perfectissima constat. Wright Resp.

The French Men o'War returned last frid<sup>y</sup> tow<sup>ds</sup> Newp<sup>t</sup> after attacking unsuccessfully the Fort at Lloyd's Neck on L. Isld.—Huntington. Gen. Green is very successful at S<sup>o</sup> Carolina. Gov. Rutledge left Philad<sup>a</sup> lately to resume his Gov<sup>t</sup> of S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>. Also Gov<sup>t</sup> is sitting up again in Georgia. The British have possession only of Savanna & Charlest<sup>o</sup>, Portsm<sup>o</sup> in Virg., & N. York. The rest of the United States is evacuated of them. How long this will continue so, is with God.

17. The Seniors disputed the 3 Questions for Commencement, with 3 Respond<sup>ts</sup> & each Division of Opponents in the same manner as they expect to dispute publicly at Commencement.

18. I gave a Farewell to the Senior Class, Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts. This day is a public Commencem<sup>t</sup> at Harv. College, & public Examin<sup>a</sup> of the Candidates here. In the Forenoon they were examined in the learned Languages & the Arts & Sciences. P.M. there were Orations & public Exercises, as in the preced<sup>g</sup> pages. They began at III 30' P.M. and ended at VII<sup>b</sup>. The Clio. Orat. 15'.—Dial. 20'. Recess ½h.—forensic Disput<sup>a</sup> one hour—Val. Orat. 32'—Tutor Atw<sup>a</sup> Address 17'—besides Anthems & Pauses.

19. I had no Lecture. The young Sirs going home.

22. Ldsdy. Mr. Robinson preached at College. I preached at Mount Carmel, & baptized two children of Chauncy Dickerman &  
<sup>1</sup> Dickerman both by the name of Rebecca.

23. President Huntington from Congress passed thro' town this day. Advises that the prime Minister of Russia in a private Letter to one in Holland assures that he will use his Influence that Russia takes part, & not lay down arms till—the Dutch be indemnified all their Losses from Britain—and Amer. Independ<sup>y</sup> be acknowledged —& the armed Neutrality be supported.

24. There are 119 Undergrad. present of the three Classes.

Last Ldsdy (22<sup>nd</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup>) a corps of the En<sup>y</sup> surprized and took the Rev<sup>d</sup> Moses Mather of Middlesex<sup>2</sup> near Horseneck & his whole Congregation toward the close of the afternoon Service. They released the Women & Children & a few old men, & carried off about fourty Men with their Horses on board the Vessels, which sailed immed<sup>y</sup> for L. Island. This doubtless will be notable in the history of the War.

25. Professor Strong gave his Philosophical Lecture.

26. I gave my Eccl. Lect. being the Hist. of N. Engl<sup>d</sup> Ordinations. . . . .

28. . . . . Sent off one of the young Candidates with the Theses & Catal. for the press at Hartf<sup>d</sup>.

29. Ldsdy. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Trumbull of N<sup>o</sup> Haven preached all day in Chapel. Mr. Atwater supplied Northaven. I was very sick & unable to go abroad.

## August.

1 & 2. Very ill & unable to attend College affairs.

2. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atw<sup>a</sup> set out for Westfield where he has a Call to settle—to be abs<sup>t</sup> 2 Sabbaths. His Class to recite Languages to Mr. Fitch & Philosophy to Mr. Meigs.

Sir Chan<sup>s</sup> returned fr. Hartford, the Printer there has engaged to the Commencem<sup>t</sup> Theses, Catalogues, & Quæstiones Magistrales. The Press in New Haven (Tho. Green)<sup>3</sup> is a Tory press & unobliging to College. This the Reason of sending abroad.

<sup>1</sup> Probably Jonathan.

<sup>2</sup> A graduate and Fellow of Yale, and minister of what is now Darien, Conn. He was confined in New York City for some months.

<sup>3</sup> Thomas Green, of New London, joined his brother Samuel at New Haven in the printing business in 1767, and retired in 1809. The Greens did most of the College printing between these dates.



I rec<sup>d</sup> a Letter from Hon. Roger Sherman at Congress with Papers giv<sup>g</sup> acc<sup>o</sup> of the Commencem<sup>t</sup> at Philad<sup>a</sup> 4<sup>th</sup> July last. It being Anniv<sup>y</sup> of Indep<sup>d</sup> & Congress at Leisure, the Congress with the Magistracy of the Pensylv<sup>a</sup> attended the academic Exercises. Half a doz. youth graduated A.B. & three M.B. Congress, Prest. & Council of the State, the Provost & Trustees, dined upon a cold Collation given by Congress at the State House.

As Ld. Cornwallis with Brit. Army in Virginia were retreating towards the Sea, & the Marq. de la Fayette in Pursuit, an Action happened at Jamestown Chh on 6<sup>th</sup> July between the Brit. & G. Waynes Corps soon supported by the Marquiss. We were repelled with the Loss of two hundred [120] killed wounded & miss<sup>d</sup>. Next day the Eny. prosecuted their Retreat.

3. No Lecture yesterday.

4. I rode abroad.

5. Ldsdy. The Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Goodrich preached all day in Chapel, A.M. on X the Judge of the World—& he administered the Lds Supper, present 14 Communicants. P.M. 2 Thess. ii, 11, 12. I attended all day. Mr. Ely preached at Durham for Mr. Goodrich.

6. An Juramentum sit licitum? Williams 1 Resp.—Junior Class. Letter from Mr. Baldwin Whiteplains 22 July. “Whatever Report may say, it will not be worth while to believe the Army is attempt<sup>g</sup> the Reduct. of N. York, till they can march more than three Thous<sup>d</sup> Continental Troops. I doubt whether we were able to march so many down out of the six Brigades which are here. There is in addition the Jersey Brigade over Dobbs Ferry, one N. York, & Hazon's -Reg<sup>t</sup> with a Detatchm<sup>t</sup> of six from each Comp<sup>a</sup> at Westpoint, this is his Excellencys Command, if Congress would promote him to a Brigadier, it would be a very respectable Command.”

7. Mess<sup>rs</sup> W<sup>ms</sup>, Trumbull, & Goodrich met here as a Committee of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> to settle College Acco<sup>ts</sup> with D<sup>r</sup> Daggett's Administrator.

8. Professor Strong gave his Lecture.

10. I had no Lecture yesterday.

11. This day I delivered to my Daughter Emilia a Silk Gown & the rest of her portion of her Mother's Things, which at her Death 1775 she requested me to keep for our Daughters till they should be respectively æt. 18 or more. Emilia is æt. 19½. Betsey, Kezia, & Emilia have each their parts. Remain Ruth's & Polly's.

12. Ldsdy. M<sup>r</sup> Ely supplied the Chapel. He preached there himself A.M. and exchanged with M<sup>r</sup> Edwds P.M. . . . .

13. Bellum utrinque non est licitum. Warner Resp. D. Atwater abs.

14. Whether Privateering is lawful? Yesterday died the Rev<sup>d</sup> Philemon Robins of Branford æt. 72, Min<sup>y</sup> 49.

15. I attended Mr. Robbins Funeral, Ten Ministers present. Mr. Williams of Northf<sup>d</sup> preached & Mr. Whitt<sup>y</sup> & I made the prayers. Mr. Robbins was born at Cambridge, 1709—graduated at Harv. Coll. 1729—ord. at Branf<sup>d</sup> Feb. 1732/3. Prof. Strong held his Lecture.

16. I am mak<sup>g</sup> an Oration for Commencem<sup>t</sup>. I gave my Lecture.

18. Finished Oration. . . . .

19. Ldsdy. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Rogers a Baptist Minister of Philad<sup>a</sup> preached in the Chapel A.M. Ps. cxxxvii, 7. P.M. I preached Mat. xvi, 26. Last Feb<sup>y</sup> was formed at Philad<sup>a</sup> a new Quaker Meet<sup>g</sup> consist<sup>g</sup> of those who were *read out of Meets* for taking Arms in the present War and paying Taxes—i. e. it is a Whig Quaker Meeting.

22. Visited by Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. James Davidson Rector of the Acad<sup>y</sup> Philad<sup>a</sup>.

23. No Lect. yest. nor to day. D<sup>r</sup> Davidson went away. G. Sullivan here.

The University of Philad<sup>a</sup> consist<sup>g</sup> of about a dozen Undergrad. but has the Superintend<sup>y</sup> of the Acad<sup>y</sup> &c. 300 Boys & Girls.

#### Pensylv<sup>a</sup> Curr<sup>y</sup>

| Salary                            | Officers of Instruction                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| £ 500 Provost Ewing               | } both teach <sup>g</sup> Nat. Phil.—D <sup>r</sup> Ewing                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 450 V. Provost Rittenhouse        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|                                   | } teach <sup>g</sup> Logic & Metap. & Ethics,                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|                                   | Ethics contain <sup>g</sup> Jurisp. & Politics.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| 350 D <sup>r</sup> James Davidson | Rector of the Acad <sup>y</sup> & immed <sup>y</sup> conversant in the school of Lat. & Greek, but superintend <sup>g</sup> the Eng. & Math. School. Three Tutors Mess <sup>rs</sup> Gregg, Wallace, Steuart. About 90 Lat. & Gr. Scholars. |

#### Professors in the University

300 Rev. Rob. Davidson Prof. Humanity i. e. Gr. & Lat.

300 Rev. Kunzè (Lutheran) for the Germ. & Dutch Youth—carries them through the Lang. & Sciences. Has about 50 Gr. & Lat. Scholars. One Tutor, Mr. Miller.

- 300 Mr. James Cannon Pr. Mathem<sup>a</sup> & Eng. Lang. & belongs to the Acad<sup>y</sup> next to D<sup>r</sup> Davidson. Mr. Patterson under Mr. Cannon. 130 Eng. & 50 Math. Scholars.
- 225 Mr. Patterson (ignorant of learned Tongues) master of  
 £2425 Math. School. The 4 medical professors without Sal-  
 650 Tutors aries but receiv<sup>g</sup> a half Joe each fr. 70 Med. Students.
- £3075 D<sup>r</sup> Shippen, D<sup>r</sup> Rush—expected D<sup>r</sup> Kuhn & D<sup>r</sup> Morgan.  
 3 Tutors in Eng. School } first £125, rest £100 each.  
 3 do Lat. do }
- D<sup>r</sup> James Davidson educated in Glasgow 1757. M<sup>r</sup> Rob<sup>t</sup>  
 D<sup>o</sup> — at Philad<sup>a</sup>. Rev. Mr. Kunzè in Saxony.  
 [S. T. D. 1783.] Mr. Wallace in Edinburgh. All  
 Professors in the Univ<sup>y</sup> rank above all Ministers.

25. . . . . About noon died Jared Ingersoll<sup>1</sup> Esq of this T<sup>o</sup> æt.  
 59. He has passed thro' a Variety in Life. By accepting the  
 Office of Stamps 1765 he rendered himself obnoxious; he had formerly the Confidence of his Country & was sent over Agent by Connecticut to G. Britain. He was Judge of Adm<sup>y</sup> with £600. Sterl<sup>g</sup> sal<sup>y</sup>. But all this made him unhappy.

26. Ldsdy. I preached at Branfd in Mr. Robbins Pulpit.

29. Rec<sup>d</sup> Lett. from Mr. Sherman at Congress with account of Evacu<sup>a</sup> of 96 in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup> about 11 July—and also the Resol<sup>n</sup> of Congress of 7<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> respect<sup>g</sup> Vermont indicat<sup>g</sup> a Readiness to ackn<sup>o</sup> it an independ<sup>t</sup> State upon their giv<sup>g</sup> back their new Claims & reduc<sup>g</sup> themselves to Connect. River & the Limits of the Grants.

30. I held my Lecture. Pr. Strong here yesterday but had no Lecture.

31. At II<sup>h</sup> Mane or before day landed at West Haven 150 of the Enemy which came over from Lloyds Neck on L. Isld. in one Brig and two Sloops. They plundered the Parish & captivated Deacon Painter æt. 80 & half a doz. psons besides the Guard, & carried off phps. 30 cattle, & embarked by 7 or 8 o'clock. Gen. Parsons being on his way fr. Milfd to NH. turned off & took the com<sup>d</sup> of the pple which assembled in arms on the occasion. About X<sup>h</sup> A.M. Rain & Wind came up, & the Brig overset off Stratfd & sunk, only half a dozen persons saved. A wonderful ordering of divine Providence!

<sup>1</sup> A graduate of Yale in 1742.



September.

1. Gen. Wash. is removed over N<sup>o</sup> River at Chatham in Jersey.  
 2. Ldsdy. Mr. Tutor Atwater preached in Chapel all day. I administered the Sacram<sup>t</sup> to 14 Communicants.

3. Examined & admitted Ely into the new Freshm. Class—now 9.

4. Began Transcript of G. Wash. Diploma. Tot. Scholars 125 in Town.

5. No Lecture to day. G. Wash. & a Divis. of Army gone beyond Philad<sup>a</sup>. . . . .

6. Examin<sup>a</sup> of Sen<sup>r</sup> Class. Orations & Dial. as usual.

7. Alarmed—the En<sup>y</sup> burning N. London. The infamous Gen. Arnold with a corps of 1500 landed and burned New London Sept. 6, 1781, & left it next day. Total of Dwell<sup>g</sup> houses burnt at N. London, sixty five (contain<sup>g</sup> ninety seven families), thirty one stores, 18 shops, 20 Barns, nine public & other Build<sup>g</sup>s—Total 143. Besides these they burned at Groton twelve dwell<sup>g</sup> houses, 1 school-house, 4 Barns, 2 shops & 2 stores.

I sent my Furniture out of T<sup>o</sup> 7 Sept. & returned this Book Oct. 25<sup>th</sup>.

6. New London taken & burnt by Gen. Arnold.

7. News of it at New Haven 3 o'clock this morning.

8. News N. London evacuated Thursdy night. Gen. Wash. at Philad<sup>a</sup> last Sat<sup>y</sup> on his way to Virginia, with his own and French army in three Divisions.

9. Ldsdy. A.M. Mr. Barlow preached in the Chapel. Rom. xiii, 8. P.M. I preached a Farewel to the Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts 2 Tim. iii, 17. The Fleet from N. London arrived by V<sup>h</sup> P.M. off against Killingworth. Very threat<sup>en</sup>g & alarm<sup>g</sup>!

10. Last Even<sup>g</sup> the fleet seen off Killingworth. Alarm. Militia flocking into New Haven, & ordered in along the whole Sea Coast of Connect. from N. London to Stamfd. Sent my Letter in Hebrew to Mr. Simpson the aged Jew at Wilton in Norwalk. . . . .

11. The Corporation of Yale College assembling, altho' we greatly fear that Commencement will be interrupted by the Enemy. We have admitted above 40 Freshmen. News of arrival of a French Fleet in Chesapeak 28<sup>th</sup> Aug. last. Comfortable Prospects there. Arnold & his fleet returned in a scattering manner to Long Isld. This Even<sup>g</sup> the College and Chapel illuminated. A large Concourse of People.

12. Public Commencement here. (The first public Commencement in my Presidency.) Exercises 3 hours in the forenoon & 3 hours P.M. I conferred the academic Degrees upon 25 Bachelors of Arts & 46 Masters. Total 71. The account or Represent<sup>n</sup> of it was given in the public prints as follows :

“ YALE COLLEGE, Sept. 14, 1781.

The pub. Commenc<sup>t</sup> after an Intermission of seven years, was celebrated the 12<sup>th</sup> Instant. At X<sup>h</sup> A.M. the academic Procession moved from the College Chapel to the Brick Meet<sup>g</sup>house as follows ; The Students by Classes in the reverse order of their Standing. The Candidates for the Degree of Bachelor of Arts : the Cand. for the Deg. of Master of Arts : the Reverend the Presid<sup>t</sup> preceded by the Beadle ; the Rev<sup>d</sup> the Fellows ; the Professor of Mathem. & nat Philosophy ; the Tutors ; Ministers & other respectable Gentlemen.

The Rev<sup>d</sup> Prest. opened the Exercises of the day with Prayer. Then succeeded the following Literary Exhibitions.

A salutatory Oration by Mr. Baldwin in Latin.

A syllogistic Disputation on these Questions—An maxime Necessitas moralis unâ cum Libertate perfectissimâ constet ? Mr. Wright Respondent. An Bellum utrinque sit licitum ? Mr. Welles, Resp. An si nulla esset Vita futura Virtus tamen esset colenda ? Mr Isaacs Respond<sup>t</sup>.

An Anthem—set to musick by Mr. Dwight.<sup>1</sup>

A Greek Oration by Mr. Perkins.

An English Dialogue between Mess<sup>rs</sup> Breed, Langdon, & Smith on this Question, Whether the Interests of the United States would be best promoted in the present Period by an Attention to *Agriculture, Commerce, or Manufactures* ?

A forensic Disputation on the follow<sup>g</sup> Question, Whether the Literature of the Antients excelled that of the Moderns ? by Mr. Kent & Mr. Gridley on the affirmative, & Mr. Stebbins and Mr. Channing on the negative.

An Oration upon the Oriental Learning, in *Hebrew, Chaldee and Arabic*, by the President.<sup>2</sup>

An English Oration on the belles Lettres by Mr. Hinckly, which closed the Exercises of the Forenoon.

The President introduced the Afternoon Exercises with a Latin Oration. After w<sup>o</sup> the Exhibition of the Candidates for the Second Degree succeeded in the follow<sup>g</sup> order.

Syllogistic Disput<sup>a</sup> on these Questions :

An Immortalitas Animæ è Lumine Naturæ sive Ratiocinio naturali investigari possit ? M<sup>r</sup> Bishop Resp. An Gratia irresistibilis Libertati morali repugn<sup>t</sup> ? M<sup>r</sup> Judson Resp. This last omitted for want of time.

A Dissertation in English upon the Universal Diffusion of Literature as introductory to the Universal Diffusion of Christianity—by M<sup>r</sup> Webster.

<sup>1</sup> Samuel Dwight (Yale Coll. 1773), a teacher in New Haven.

<sup>2</sup> The manuscript of this Hebrew Oration, upon the Hebrew Literature, preserved among Dr. Stiles's papers, shows that it was originally composed in 1778, but this was the first opportunity for its delivery.

The Genius of Literature, a Poem, by Mr. Barlow.

An Eng. Orat. on the progress of Society by M<sup>r</sup> Wolcott was omitted for want of time.

The Academical Honors were then conferred, and the follow<sup>g</sup> young Gentlemen were admitted to the Degree of *Bachelor of Arts*.

|                             |     |                                   |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|-----------------------------------|-----|
| Jason Atwater, <sup>1</sup> | 24/ | W <sup>m</sup> Noyes,             | 24/ |
| Simeon Baldwin,             | 24/ | Reuben Parmele,                   | 24/ |
| Daniel Boardman             | 27/ | Enoch Perkins,                    | 27/ |
| Simeon Breed,               | 27/ | Sam <sup>l</sup> Dunbar Searle    |     |
| Jon <sup>a</sup> Burral,    | 27/ | Israel Smith,                     | 24/ |
| Henry Trevett Channing      |     | Stephen W <sup>ms</sup> Stebbins, | 18/ |
| Dan <sup>l</sup> Farrand,   | 24/ | Dan <sup>l</sup> Tomlinson,       | 26/ |
| Elihu Gridly,               | 18/ | Sylvester Welles,                 | 28/ |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Hinckly,   | 27/ | Jn <sup>o</sup> W <sup>ms</sup>   | 48/ |
| Benjamin Isaacs,            | 27/ | Nathan Wooster,                   | 30/ |
| James Kent                  | 28/ | Jos. Lucius Wooster.              | 28/ |
| Tim <sup>o</sup> Langdon,   | 24/ | Elizur Wright,                    | 24/ |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Newell,    | 27/ |                                   |     |

The following Gentlemen were admitted to the Deg. of Master of Arts.

|                                  |        |                                |        |
|----------------------------------|--------|--------------------------------|--------|
| Eben. Martin,                    | gratis | 1778                           |        |
| Charles Mather,                  | 30/    | Joel Barlow,                   | 27/    |
| Benj <sup>a</sup> Foster,        | 24/    | Ab <sup>m</sup> Bp.,           | 24/    |
| Joseph Walker,                   |        | Benj. Chaplin,                 | 24/    |
| James Morris,                    | 24/    | Eben. Daggett,                 | gratis |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Mills,          | 24/    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Alexis Dibble, |        |
| Eliphaz Perkins,                 | 24/    | Hen. Ely,                      | 24/    |
| Rozel Cook,                      |        | Tho. Gould,                    |        |
| Moses Cleaveland,                | 24/    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Goodrich,      | 24/    |
| Jon <sup>a</sup> Nicol Haven,    |        | Obad. Hotchkiss,               |        |
| W <sup>m</sup> Hilhouse,         |        | Fred. W. Hotchkiss,            | 24/    |
| Jn <sup>o</sup> May,             |        | David Judson,                  | 24/    |
| Sam <sup>l</sup> Morey,          | 24/    | Josiah Meigs, Tutor            |        |
| W <sup>m</sup> Mosely,           | 20/    | Jn <sup>o</sup> Mix,           | 24/    |
| Jon <sup>a</sup> Gibson Parsons, | 28/    | Joseph Noyes,                  |        |
| Charles Selden,                  |        | Giles Pettebone,               |        |
| Henry Ten Eyck,                  | 28/    | Josiah Spalding,               | 24/    |
|                                  |        | Seth Storrs,                   |        |
|                                  |        | Zeph. Swift,                   | 24/    |
|                                  |        | Uriah Tracy,                   |        |
|                                  |        | Noah Webster,                  | 25/    |
|                                  |        | Ichabod Wetmore,               |        |
|                                  |        | Oliver Wolcott,                |        |

The follow<sup>g</sup> Gent. educated at other Colleges were also admitted to the Deg. of M<sup>r</sup> of Arts. Abel Whitney, Sam<sup>l</sup> Emery (48/), Ezra Stiles of Harv. College:

<sup>1</sup> The items in the column following the names designate the gratuities paid to the President as degree-fees.



W<sup>m</sup> Channing of Nassau Hall : Seth Read (24/) & Josiah Read (24/) of Rh. Isld. College.

The Deg. of Master of Arts was conferred upon the Hon. Sam<sup>l</sup> Holden Parsons (28/) Esq., Major Gen. in the American Army.

A Latin Valedictory Oration was pronounced by Mr. Tutor Meigs : & the Pres<sup>t</sup> closed the Exercises of the day with prayer."

The Orations Dial. & for. Disput<sup>a</sup> were delivered upon a Stage 18 feet square before the pulpit. Mr. Barlow was clapped. On the stage the Degrees were conferred, Col. Fitch as Beadle handing the Greek Testament the Book presented to the Graduates & the Diplomas. I sat in a Great Chair on an elevated Step upon the Stage at giv<sup>g</sup> the Degrees, which I conferred in the following words—"Pro Auctoritate mihi commissâ admitto Vos ad primum Gradum in Artibus, pro more Academiarum in Angliâ, cæterarumque Universitatum Europearum. Vobisque trado hunc Librum, una cum Potestate publicè prælegendi quotiescunque & ubicunque ad istoc munus evocati fueritis. Cujus hæc Instrumenta in Membranam Scripta Testimonia sint." To the Masters the same, add<sup>g</sup> & *profitendi* after prælegendi. The Candidates came up three & three. Previous to my conferring the Degrees I addressed the Senatus Academicus in these Words—Socij Reverendi, Ex Assensu vestro, ad Gradus Ego academicos Candidatos hosce Juvenes Virosque admittam.

13. Conference between the Corpor<sup>a</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Baldwin, who this Afternoon declined the Professorship. We offered him a Salary of £150 p ann. Silver. He has Colonels pay as Chaplain in the Army & lays up £350 a year, & expects Captains half pay £72 during Life : and has prospect of settling at any time among the numerous vacancies in the Chhs. upon £300 settle<sup>t</sup> & £100 sal<sup>y</sup> & Wood. All these prospects induced him to decline our Call. I believe he is also influenced by the Prospect of being called, together with a Group or Cluster of Geniuses into a Literary Institution hereafter. He did not chuse to trust himself with our Corporation. We have admitted 75 Freshmen.

14. The Corpor<sup>a</sup> elected the Reverend Samuel Wales of Milford Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> in this College, and appointed Mess<sup>rs</sup> Williams & Goodrich with myself to wait upon him & his Chh. with this Call. We also elected Mess<sup>rs</sup> Barlow, Wolcott, & Goodrich Tutors of this College. The Corporation dissolved their Meeting.

16. Ldsdy. I attended Mr. Whittelseys Meeting. Express this Morn<sup>g</sup> from G. Parsons advising that last Even<sup>g</sup> at Sunset Arnold's

Fleet of 40 or 50 sail, sailed from Lloyds Neck eastw<sup>d</sup>, the object he judged most probable New Haven or Newport. But upon look<sup>g</sup> out none appeared to day & we began to be relieved. Many remov<sup>d</sup> goods—but public Worship not broken up.

17. At a quarter before Two this Morn<sup>g</sup> the Alarm Guns were fired in T<sup>o</sup> & advice that the fleet was anchored off Westhaven & Enemy was landing. I removed 8 Beds &c &c. We realized the Conflag<sup>a</sup> of the T<sup>o</sup>.—But upon Day appear<sup>g</sup> we found only 3 or 4 small Vessels there, had landed 2 or 3 Boats but were driven away. We were advised of this at VI½<sup>h</sup> Manè & we were relieved. But the Alarm hav<sup>g</sup> gone forth 2000 Militia flocked in this day at this & the adjacent Towns.

#### EXTRACTS, MINUTES MY JOURNEY.<sup>1</sup>

19. I sat out on my Journey to Piscataqua, Boston & Rh. Isld. Lodged at Mr. Goodrichs in Durham.

20. Admitted 3 Freshmen at Middlet<sup>o</sup>, Huntington, Devotion & W<sup>ms</sup>.

21. Another (Williams) at Weathersfld; so now we have 80 in the Freshman Class. As we expect Mr. Barlow declines,<sup>2</sup> being Chaplain in Army, I waited on M<sup>r</sup> Wolcott at Hartf<sup>d</sup> & discoursed with him on the Tutorship. Find great prospects concern<sup>g</sup> Stapletons School at Fairf<sup>d</sup><sup>3</sup>—to become a Univ<sup>y</sup>—Charter drawn by Mr. D——<sup>4</sup> to be preferred at next Assembly—Corpor<sup>a</sup> 30 or more consist<sup>g</sup> of Gov. & some others officially, other Civilians from each County and a few Ministers. Crossed ferry & lodged at Hills in E. Hartford. 3/6.

22. At Hebron saw my D. Polly & paid Mrs. Gillet<sup>5</sup> £7. 6. 0. for School<sup>g</sup> from June 30 to 20<sup>th</sup> October; partly 9/ & partly 7/p week. Rode to Scotland—Mr. Whitings.

23. Ldsdy. At Scotland. Mr. Devotion of Saybrook preached all day. Mr. Cogswell began with asking a blessing—then sang—then read a chapter—then prayer—singing—Sermon—prayer—blessing.

<sup>1</sup> A few additions are made to the text from another manuscript, the Itinerary.

<sup>2</sup> i. e., declines the call to a Tutorship. See above, Sept. 14.

<sup>3</sup> Staples Free School in Fairfield, Conn.

<sup>4</sup> Rev. Timothy Dwight, now of Northampton, Mass., who was (according to Dr. Stiles) scheming to control a College in Connecticut.

<sup>5</sup> Abigail, wife of John Gillet (Yale 1758) and daughter of the Rev. Dr. Benjamin Pomeroy, the minister of Hebron.

26. At Bolton near Harvard attended Mr. Puffers Ordination. Mr.           preached, Mr. Parkman prayed & gave the Charge, Mr. Harrington of Lancaster gave the Rt. hand—sung 100<sup>th</sup> Hymn. Rode 10 m. to Harvard where lives the Elect Lady who made about 20 Converts of the Relics of old Mr. Irelands Immortalists.<sup>1</sup> He died 4 years ago & the sect was shockt & breaking up, but now listen to the Reveries of Nesqueuna.

27. Dined Dunstable, N. Hamp. at Harwoods 2/. Lodged at Derry.

28. At Exeter I heard that the Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Willard of Beverly was lately elected President of Harv. College. At Exeter I visited Frame & Situation of the new *Acad<sup>y</sup>* there erect<sup>d</sup> by D<sup>r</sup> Phillips. Charter from Assembly of N. Hamp. lately—Edifice 50 & 23 feet, two Stories, each Room 23 f. square; 7 Trustees—D<sup>r</sup> Phillips has given New Lands valued 10 Th. Dollars.

29. Dined at Mr. MacIntocs in Greenland.

30. Ldsdy. I preached all day at Portsmouth. A.M. at Dr. Havens. P.M. at Mr. Buckminsters.

## October

1. News Brit. fleet repulsed at Chesepeak & returned to N York.

2. Rode to Berwick—returned—Visit<sup>d</sup> Portsm<sup>o</sup> Friends all week.

7. Ldsdy. I preached all day to my former Congreg<sup>a</sup> now M<sup>r</sup> Buckminsters & administered the Sacr<sup>t</sup> to his Chh. he being absent.

8. Newport<sup>2</sup> & Violet bound to me for 7 years @ £20. Left Portsm<sup>o</sup> & dined at President Langdons at Hampton, where he is settled over 70 Fam<sup>ys</sup>. Salary £42 & 8 cord Wood & on Benevolence. Reached Ipswich.

9. Visited Rev. Mr. Willard at Beverly & conversed on his Election to the Præsidency, which he will accept. Arrived at Cambridge.

10. At Camb. visit<sup>d</sup> the Professors & Tutors. Coll. Library 13 Th. Volumes. Examined the Bab. Talmud. Dined in Boston, visited D<sup>r</sup> Chauncy &c. & rode out to Dedham.

<sup>1</sup> Shadrach Ireland was at the head of an eccentric sect in Harvard from about 1760 to his death in the summer of 1780. Mother Ann Lee, the leader of the Shakers first came there in June 1781.

<sup>2</sup> See this Diary, Feb. 26, 1775, and June 9, 1778.



11. & 12. Via Provid. to Newport Sat<sup>y</sup> P.M.

14. Ldsdy. I preached all day at Newport.

18. I baptized privately at Newport Francis son of Major Joshua Sayer & Rebecca his wife ; Also Betsy, and Nancy James, Twin Children of Cap<sup>t</sup> Benj<sup>a</sup> Sayer and Sarah his Wife.

19. After Dinner I left Newp<sup>t</sup> with my D. Kezia, & crossed the ferries. Lodged at Dr. Torreys S<sup>o</sup> Kingston.

20. Dined at D<sup>r</sup> Bartlett's in Charlestown & baptized Telemachus his Son, & rode to Stonington, Mr. David Chesebrough's.

21. Ldsdy. I preached for Mr. Eells.

22. Rode to Saybrook.

23. At Guilford—Returning home. Vacation Ends.

24. We arrived safely at N Haven, & found the family well. Deo Grates.

<sup>1</sup> While in Newport President Stiles received a letter from his eldest daughter (aged 23½), which is in part as follows :

N. HAVEN Oct 13 1781

HON'D PAPA

Agreeable to your Orders I write by the Post to inform you we are very well but quite alone. Isaac went with Ben to Newport, has not yet return'd. I thought I could do very well without him, for he would willingly have tarried at home the Vacation, had I desired it but as there was nothing of Consequence to see after except the Cyder I thought he'd better go. Mr. Williston sent for the Cask & I sent what I thought right & have got 3 Hogsheads well put up in the Celler, by the Assistance of Mr. Woodward, who is our guard by night. He is One of the Melitia that are station here. When he is upon guard, I get Murwin who lives in Town, to sleep here as I'm fearful of being alone in the night. We have not had any Alarm since you have been gone. Colonel Arnold keeps them at Bay, very cleverly. the day before yesterday he Paraded his men out about 2 miles, with an intent to have a sham fight, their appearance was exceeding good, & I never saw a body of Melitia look so well, & conduct so well in my life. the Col. is a fine looking man & his *Phiz* told us he felt cleverly. He keeps at the Stewards & we have a Centry close by us.

Day before yesterday Mr. Ingersol arrived here from Philadelphia, come to settle his affairs. Whether he brought any news or not I cannot tell, for we have little or no Company, & are so retired now, that was there any news in Town we should not know it till 'twas Old.

The Steward yesterday took entirely down College Bake house, has got a new one raised, I think a third larger than the other, they are now covering it, all hands at work . . .

From Papa's ever

Dutiful Daughter

BETSEY STILES.

I have made of our grape Vine 5 Quarts of Wine—the rest of the Cyder is come & safe in the Celler. Our Boy is come, & is a very good one.

## LOOSE MEMOIRS.

The Reverend Joseph Willard of Beverly was elected President of Harvard College by the Corporation Sept. 5, 1781. The Choice approved by the Overseers Sept. 20<sup>th</sup>. *Ætat.* 42.

Mr. John Whiting of Windham *æt.* 70 & *supra*, graduated at Yale College 1726; this Journey I saw him when he gave me the follow<sup>g</sup> account of the monthly Rectors when he first entered College 1722. 'Tho' all agreed to take their Turns, yet six of the Trustees only, actually came & resided at New Haven viz. Rev<sup>d</sup> Mr. Woodbridge, Mr. Russel, Mr. Davenp<sup>t</sup>, Mr. Andrew, Mr. Buckingham of Hartfd, & Mr. Whitman; neither Mr. Adams nor the rest came. Mr. Woodb. moderated at Commenc<sup>t</sup> 1723; Mr. And<sup>w</sup> 1724 & then elected stated Rector *pro tempore* till another shd be chosen<sup>1</sup>—& he served three years, & was considered called & treated as standing Rector. *Ex ore* Mr. Whiting.

Present Undergrad. at Harv. College *ex ore* Professorum.

|                    |     |                      |
|--------------------|-----|----------------------|
| Senior Class . . . | 35  |                      |
| Juniors . . .      | 28  | Tot. Yal. Coll. 222. |
| Sophimores . . .   | 45  |                      |
| Freshmen . . .     | 40  |                      |
| <hr/>              |     |                      |
| Total . . .        | 148 |                      |

Mr. Eliphalet Pearson is Præceptor of Phillips Academy at Andover. Salary £60, together with two farms. Charter of this Acad<sup>y</sup> 1780.

Phillips Academy at Exeter founded—Charter 1781. Mr. Thurston expected to be Præceptor.

Phillips Acad<sup>y</sup> at Landaff erected by the Trustees of Dartm<sup>o</sup> Coll. 1781 and named Philips Acad<sup>y</sup> after Col. Philips of Exeter one of the Trustees of the College, not because he gave any Thing to it, but because at sundry Times & in various Donations to the College & Indians has given £900. Silver. He is displeased with the College & sent in his Resign<sup>a</sup> of his Office as Trustee—but the Trustees dont accept it, being unwill<sup>g</sup> to part with so opulent a Benefactor; and to sweeten him have appropriated largely Lands in the disputed Township of Landaff which the College claims. At present there is no School as the Town is yet unsettled. . . .

New Haven West Rock 19 Rods 7 feet 10 Inches perpendicular

<sup>1</sup> There is no vote to this effect in the Records of the Corporation.

Height above the Plain south of it, surveyed by Mr. Tutor Atwater 1774.

President Edwards measured & found M<sup>t</sup> Tom 63 Rods high.

L<sup>t</sup> Hawley measured & found Hoosuk Mountain 1500 feet, so about ninety Rods high perpendicular. . . . .

Gen. Wayne stormed & took Stony Point July 15, 1779, eleven days after the Enemy took New Haven. Killed & wounded :

|                                |   |   |                      |
|--------------------------------|---|---|----------------------|
| Col. Febigers Reg <sup>t</sup> | . | . | 7 Killed—37 Wounded. |
| Col. Butlers D <sup>o</sup>    | . | . | 3 30                 |
| Col. Meigs D <sup>o</sup>      | . | . | 3 11                 |
| Major Hulls D <sup>o</sup>     | . | . | 2 5                  |
|                                |   |   | <hr/>                |
|                                |   |   | 15 82                |

Total of Prisoners 543. Total Enemy Killed 63.

#### HARVARD COLLEGE VACATIONS.

- I<sup>st</sup> . . . . 4 Weeks from 3<sup>d</sup> Wednesday in July.  
 II. . . . . 2 W. fr. 3<sup>d</sup> Wednesday in Oct.  
 III. . . . . 5 W. fr. 1<sup>st</sup> Wednesday in Janry.  
 IV. . . . . 2 W. fr. last Wednesday in April.  
 Valedictory Friday before 21<sup>st</sup> of June.  
 Commencement 3<sup>d</sup> Wednesday in July.

Γηράσκω δὲ αἰὲ πολλά διδασκόμενος.<sup>1</sup>

23. Vacation ends at College M<sup>r</sup> Tutors Atwater and Meigs present, & set up Orders. Present 30.

24. I returned from a Journey to Piscataqua, Boston and Rhode Isld. Three Freshmen admitted this day. Total of Freshmen 87. M<sup>r</sup> Atwater informs me that he has accepted the Call to settle in the Ministry at Westfield, and must resign the Tutorship.

25. Received M<sup>r</sup> Wolcott's Letter declining the Tutorship, whereupon I addressed M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich, Jun. Bachelor, Tutor elect. The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Huntington gave me an acc<sup>o</sup> of *Staples* School. The Trustees & Founder are differing.<sup>2</sup>

26. Assembled 7 Seniors 9 Jun. 18 Soph. Fr. above 40. Tot. 80.

27. At VIII<sup>h</sup> this Morn<sup>g</sup> received the joyful News of the Surrendery of Ld. Cornwallis 18<sup>th</sup> Instant with his whole Army & Force in

<sup>1</sup> From the Fragments of Solon. This stands, in the original Diary, at the commencement of a new volume.

<sup>2</sup> A loose memorandum by Dr. Stiles says the founder, Samuel Staples, of that part of Fairfield which is now Easton, did not mean to give his money out of his hands—and his Donation was for poor not rich.



the Chesepeak consisting of *Nine Thousd.* Discharged 14 Canon. [Mr. Good. signified his Acceptance.]

28. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the Chapel.

29. Public Rejoycing in New Haven. Col. Arnold<sup>1</sup> commands about 600 Militia stationed here ; he convened about 500 upon the Green, marched them into the Brick Meetinghouse, where a Psalm was sung & publick Thanks were offered to God for this great Victory ; then the Troops paraded in a Line with Pieces of Artill<sup>y</sup> at each end, when 14 Canon were fired & a feu de Joy was fired thro' the Line.

M<sup>r</sup> Elizur Goodrich jun. after I had examined his religious principles, was qualified & inducted into the Tutorship, and Half the Freshman Class was committed to his Tuition—the names taken alternately.

30. Admitted Pringle. So Freshmen Class 88.

31. A Committee of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> this Morn<sup>g</sup> elected M<sup>r</sup> Zebulon Ely, Sen. Bach., a fourth Tutor in the room of M<sup>r</sup> Atw<sup>a</sup> who is soon to resign. Upon M<sup>r</sup> Atw<sup>a</sup> signifying this to us we this day returned him our Thanks for his good & faithful Services in the Tutorship, & wished him the divine Blessing in his settling in the Ministry.

We had a Conference with the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Wales on his Elect. to the Professorship of Divinity : did not settle any Thing. We called a Meet<sup>s</sup> of the Corporation upon the Affair Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>.—Yesterd<sup>y</sup> & to day the Scholars flock in apace. Present Sen. 12, Jun. 25, Soph. 41, Fr. 64. Tot. 142.

November.

1. I had no Ecc. Lect. it being very stormy.

4. Ldsdy. Mr. Atwater preached in the Chapel all day.

5. Public Rejoycing in T<sup>o</sup> by the Gentlemen of the civil Order. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Meigs at their Request made an Oration (28 min.)<sup>2</sup> publicly in the Brick Meet<sup>s</sup>house, & was clapped by the Assembly. About 60 or 70 Gentlemen dined in the Council Chamber in the Statehouse ; and in the Eveng. the College, Statehouse, & Houses around the Square or Green were finely illuminated. Sky Rockets and other fireworks were displayed on the Occasion.

<sup>1</sup> James Arnold, of Durham, Colonel of Militia.

<sup>2</sup> Afterwards published. See a letter from Gen. Washington to Dr. Stiles in acknowledgment of a copy, in the *Magazine of American Hist.*, vol. 5, p. 117.

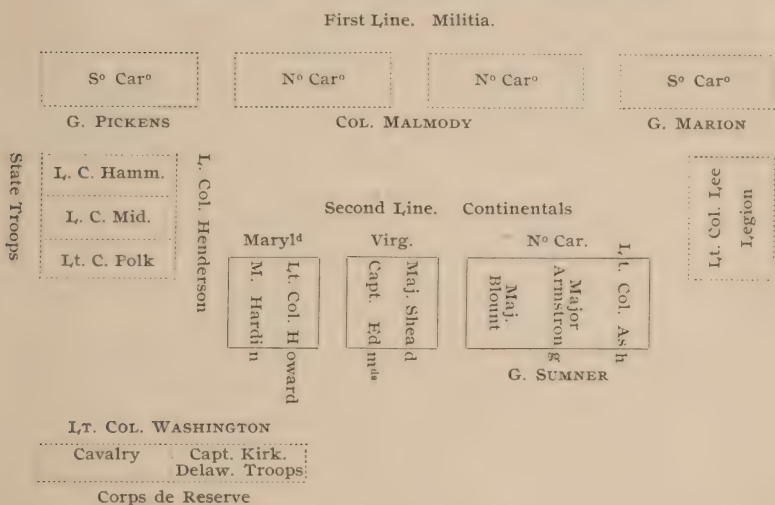
6. A Messenger returned from M<sup>r</sup> Ely with a Letter dated Lebanon 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> wherein he signifies his accept<sup>a</sup> of the Tutorship. . . . Seniors forensic Disputation, Whether future misery will be perpetual, unceasing and eternal?

8. I began again my four years' Series of Lectures on Ecclesiastical History. Begin<sup>g</sup> this Lecture with one upon sacred Chronology.

9. Gen. Greenes Lady visited me on her Way from Rhode Isl<sup>d</sup> to Charlest<sup>o</sup> S<sup>o</sup> Carolina to visit the General. . . .

Gen. Green's Victory at Eutaw S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>.

# POSITION OF GEN. GREENS ARMY SEPT. 8, 1781.



## MAJOR GENERAL GREENE

Admitted Nicoll of Albany into the Freshman Class now consist of 85 whom we expect to come : and yet we have admitted 89. Of the 220 we have 185 present—a crouded College : 90 in Commons.

10. Very cool. It is s<sup>d</sup> the Brit. fleet returned to N York last Saturday. Last Even<sup>g</sup> the College took fire about VIII<sup>h</sup> by sparks lighting on the Roof & kindled by very high Winds—but it was happily extinguished, tho' the flames were very threatening. Deo O. M. Grates. . . .

11. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the College Chapel. A.M. Prov. xxiii, 17. P.M. Mal. xiii, 23.

12. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Atwater resigned & left the Tutorship : intend<sup>g</sup> to set out tomorrow morn<sup>g</sup> for Westfield where he is to be ordained

Pastor 21<sup>st</sup> Instant. He has been a very useful Tutor, & done great good at College. May the Bless<sup>g</sup> of Heaven attend him in the Ministry. Tot. undergrad. present 192.

Bellum utrinque non est licitum. Crocker, Resp.

13. At Morning Prayers in the Chapel M<sup>r</sup> Zebulun Ely was qualified & introduced to the Tutorship. I committed to his Tuition one half of the Freshman Class, divid<sup>g</sup> the alphabetical List alternately with M<sup>r</sup> Goodrich. Whether the Mind always thinks? Seniors. . . . This Even<sup>g</sup> we examined Jonathan Leavitt of Charlemont & admitted him Freshman. This makes the *Ninetieth* we have admitted into the Freshman Class this year, of which 80 are now present in Town. Some have tho't that the Motive of send<sup>g</sup> so many to College, is to avoid Draughts during the War: but we this Even<sup>g</sup> examined the whole List of undergraduates; and of 224 we cannot judge that a dozen have been bro't to College by this Motive, & that all the rest would have come to College had there been no War.

14. Professor Strong took the Oath of Fidelity to this State yesterday at Hartfd.<sup>1</sup> This day he signified to me his resolution of resigning the Professorship, which he will do in Writing to be communicated to the Corporation at their next Meeting.

D<sup>r</sup> Wheeler informs me that about 3 W. ago he was told at Philad<sup>a</sup> that M<sup>r</sup> Rittenhouse Vice Provost of the College had lately received a Letter from one of the Literati in Europe inform<sup>g</sup> that they had *discovered Planets revolving round the fixt Stars*. If true it is a most astonish<sup>g</sup> Discovery—or rather Verification of astronomical Conjectures founded on Analogy.—I gave my Lect. on Ecc. History. [NB. This was Herschel's Discovery.<sup>2</sup>]

The British Fleet sailed from the Hook 19<sup>th</sup> Oct<sup>r</sup> consist<sup>g</sup> of 25 sail of the Line 3 of 50 & 3 of 40 Guns, a number of frigates & several Fireships. Sir Harry Clinton Commder. in Chief of all the British forces in America was on board & Prince son of the British King George the third, with six Thousd Troops. They returned Nov. 4. A violent Gale of Wind at W & NW came on the 20<sup>th</sup> of Oct. & blew a Hurricane for four days.—Ld Cornwallis surrendered 19<sup>th</sup> the day they fell off from the Hook. After a fourt' nights Absence the fleet returned to N York 4<sup>th</sup> Nov. without enter<sup>g</sup> the Chesepeak. Anchor'd off Chesepeak latter end of Oct.

<sup>1</sup> He had been avowedly lukewarm in support of the Revolution.

<sup>2</sup> The discovery by Sir William Herschel of the planet Uranus in March, 1781.



& lay there a day & departed. Adm. Digby with a few Men o' War convoyed the Transp<sup>ts</sup> back to N York—while others proceeded—perhaps for W. Indies; As the French Fleet left Chesepeak Nov. 3<sup>d</sup>. [Mem<sup>o</sup> Aug. 11, 1783. Gen Clinton said in Parl<sup>t</sup> that at the time of the siege of Ld Cornwallis, he at New York “had not *Twelve Thousd* men effectives, & of these not above *9300 fit for duty, regulars & provincials.*”]<sup>1</sup>

21. By two Rh. Isld Pilots from on Board the French Fleet in Chesepeak, I am told that, after the Surrend<sup>r</sup> of Ld Cornwallis the Count de Grasse Adm. of Fr. Fleet sailed from Chesep. 3<sup>d</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> Nov.—that some days before this the Brit. Fleet anchored before Chesep. & lying there one day vanished. These Pilots left Chesep. about 6<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> & arrived at the Hook last fridy being Flags bringing officers to N York—that Adm. Digby was indeed returned with a few Men o'War & Transp<sup>ts</sup> but that the main Fleet of Brit. was yet at sea. This Even<sup>g</sup> after Prayers in the Chapel I gave a Lecture upon the Cyclopædia of Literature, *Logic*, & *Geography*.

22. Lect. on Ecc. History. Present 201 Underg. & particularly all the Soph. Class but one in Town.

23. M<sup>r</sup> Hanson elected President of Congress on the 5<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> when the old Congress dissolved, & M<sup>r</sup> McKean's Presidency ended. The Confedr<sup>a</sup> now takes place & Congress becomes annual.

24. Six of the Scholars conversed with upon Spiritual Concerns.

25. Ldsdy. I preached in the Coll. Chapel all Day. A.M. Ps. cxix, 40. PM 2 Thess. i, 7-10.

Notified the Sacrament next Ldsdy. And propounded Sam<sup>l</sup> Goodrich, Eben. Kingsbury & Uriel Gridly of the Jun. Class to be admitted into full Communion. Reading Heinsii Aristarchus.

Investiture & Seige of York & Gloucester began Oct. 6 & ended Oct. 17, 1781, by G. Wash. & Americans, & L<sup>d</sup> G. Rochambeau & 6000 French and Adm. Count de Grasse & 30 or 40 ships of the Line. . . . .

#### [THE KILLED & WOUNDED IN THE SIEGE

From the Investiture of York Sept. 28<sup>th</sup> to 15<sup>th</sup> Oct. & the Reduction of it 17<sup>th</sup> Oct. 1781. Ext. fr. Returns authenticated to Congress.

|                         |       |           |            |
|-------------------------|-------|-----------|------------|
| Total Continentals      | . . . | 18 killed | 50 wounded |
| Militia                 | . . . | 4 “       | 16 “       |
| Tot. French Auxiliaries | . . . | 50        | 127 French |
|                         |       | <hr/> 72  | <hr/> 193  |

<sup>1</sup> At this point one leaf of the Diary has been cut out.

General Return of Prisoners of War surrendered on 19<sup>th</sup> Oct. to the allied Army under G. Wash. Summary Extracts selected fr. original Muster Rolls.

|                                                | Total         |                 |
|------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| General & Staff . . .                          | 79            |                 |
| Artill <sup>y</sup> . . . . .                  | 242, of which | 193 Rank & file |
| Guards . . . . .                               | 527           | 467             |
| Light Infantry . . .                           | 671           | 594             |
| XVII <sup>th</sup> Regmt. . . .                | 245           | 205             |
| XXIII <sup>d</sup> Do. . . . .                 | 233           | 205             |
| XXXIII <sup>d</sup> Do. . . . .                | 260           | 225             |
| XLIII <sup>d</sup> Do. . . . .                 | 359           | 307             |
| LXXI <sup>st</sup> Do. . . . .                 | 300           | 242             |
| LXXVI Do. . . . .                              | 715           | 628             |
| LXXX <sup>th</sup> Do. . . . .                 | 689           | 588             |
| Two Battall. Anspach .                         | 1077          | 984             |
| Prince Hereditary . .                          | 484           | 425             |
| Reg <sup>t</sup> de Bosc . . . .               | 349           | 271             |
| Yaugers . . . . .                              | 74            | 68              |
| B. . . . .                                     | 6304          | 5201            |
| British Legion . . .                           | 241           | 192             |
| Queens Rangers . . .                           | 320           | 248             |
| N <sup>o</sup> Car <sup>o</sup> Volunteers . . | 142           | 114             |
| Pioneers . . . . .                             | 44            | 33              |
| Other Volunt. NY, N }<br>Jersey and Virg. }    | 25            | 10              |
|                                                | 772           | 597             |
| Omissions, 84 &c                               |               |                 |

Amounting in the whole as given in by Ld Cornwallis to *Seven thousd* two hundred & fourty seven, exclusive of the Seamen, of which 6039 Rank & file.

Naval prisoners 840 + 7247 = 8087 besides Traders &c.

#### RECAPITULATION

|                             |                                                 | Commissary Departm <sup>t</sup> |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 2 Generals, Ld Cornw. & Gen | 5 Dep <sup>y</sup> Commiss.                     |                                 |
| OHarra                      | 1 D <sup>o</sup> Forage                         |                                 |
| 2 Colonels                  | 5 Assist <sup>t</sup> Commissaries              |                                 |
| 14 Lieut Colonels           | 2 Clerks 3 Issues                               |                                 |
| 16 Majors                   | 2 Coopers 1 Laborer                             |                                 |
| 34                          | 1 Comiss <sup>y</sup> milit <sup>y</sup> Stores |                                 |
| 97 Captains                 | 15 Conductors                                   |                                 |
| 180 Lieutenants             | 16 Artificers                                   |                                 |
| 55 Ensigns                  | 26 Waggoners                                    |                                 |
| 4 Chaplains                 | 5 Provost Marshals & Assistants                 |                                 |
| 6 Adjutants                 | 80 followers of Army                            |                                 |
| 18 Qu <sup>r</sup> Masters  |                                                 |                                 |

18 Surgeons 25 Mates  
 385 Serjeants  
 179 drums & trumpets  
 6039 Rank & file  
 1 Town Major  
 1 Commiss<sup>y</sup> Prisoners  
 1 Assist Qu<sup>r</sup> M<sup>r</sup>

Hospital Departmt  
 1 Surgeon & field Inspector  
 3 Surgeons 10 Mates  
 2 Purveyors 4 stewards  
 2 Ward Masters  
 19 Assistants  
 2 Carpenters

Amount<sup>s</sup> in the whole to 7247. And  
 by an Estimate collected by the Adjutant General the Killed during the Siege includ<sup>s</sup> Officers amounted to 309, and the Deserters 44.

Military Chest (£ 2113.6.0.)  
 Two Thousd one hund. & thirteen Pounds 6/ sterl<sup>s</sup>.  
 Dollars @ 4/8

Return of Ordnance & milit<sup>y</sup> Stores taken at York & Gloucester Oct. 19, 1781 . . . selected.

|                                                                                                   |       |  |      |                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------|--|------|---------------------|
| Total Brass Ordnance . . . . .                                                                    | 75 }  |  |      |                     |
| " Iron D <sup>o</sup> . . . . .                                                                   | 169 } |  |      | 224                 |
| Fire Arms—Muskets with Bayonets . . . . .                                                         |       |  |      | 5743                |
| D <sup>o</sup> without Bay <sup>o</sup> . . . . .                                                 |       |  |      | 915                 |
| D <sup>o</sup> damaged . . . . .                                                                  |       |  |      | 1136                |
|                                                                                                   |       |  |      | <hr/> 7794          |
| Sabres, 1925. D <sup>o</sup> damaged 100 . . . . .                                                |       |  |      | 2025                |
| Horsemens Swords . . . . .                                                                        |       |  |      | 273                 |
| Halberts 32, dam <sup>a</sup> 14 . . . . .                                                        |       |  |      | 46                  |
| Pikes . . . . .                                                                                   |       |  |      | 210                 |
| Regimental Standards German . . . . .                                                             |       |  | 18 } |                     |
| British 43, 76, 80—2 each . . . . .                                                               |       |  | 6 }  | 24 brot to Congress |
| D <sup>o</sup> Union Flags 4.                                                                     |       |  |      |                     |
| Camp Colours German 32, Brit. 41, . . . . .                                                       |       |  |      | 73                  |
| Drums 62 dam. D <sup>o</sup> 19 . . . . .                                                         |       |  |      | 81                  |
| Tomhawks . . . . .                                                                                |       |  |      | 26                  |
| 80 Waggon <sup>s</sup> 266 Horse <sup>s</sup> 339 Saddles 57 French D <sup>o</sup> 300 Bed Cases, |       |  |      |                     |
| 68 Pillows D <sup>o</sup> , 400 Sheets.                                                           |       |  |      |                     |
| of Cloath <sup>s</sup> 851 Coats uniform 1348 pr Shoes 537 p <sup>s</sup> Linnen, 2098 half       |       |  |      |                     |
| Ells of Cloth                                                                                     |       |  |      |                     |

## PROVISIONS

|                                  |                        |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| 500 Bush. Ind. Corn . . . . .    | 62 D <sup>o</sup> Meal |
| 276 Bb. Flour . . . . .          | 73,280 <sup>lb</sup>   |
| 520 Bags Bread . . . . .         | 59,680                 |
| 365 Bb. Pork . . . . .           | 75,750                 |
| 96 D <sup>o</sup> Beef . . . . . | 20,190                 |
| 360 firkins Butter . . . . .     | 19,870                 |
| 597 Bbs Peas . . . . .           | 2,985 Bush.            |
| 50 Bags Salt                     |                        |
| 3 Hhds Sugar                     |                        |
| 29 Bb Rice . . . . .             | 1500 <sup>lb</sup>     |



## SHIPPING

Transports & Vessels belonging to the army 33 besides sloops Schooners & 5 or 6 Gunboats or . Also private Vessels 7 besides others sunk & a very great Number of Schooners Shallops &c. Thus 3347=40 Naval Prisoners exclusive of those belong<sup>g</sup> to the private Transp<sup>ts</sup> & other Vessels, 840.

Mem<sup>o</sup>. Ld Cornwallis's Returns annexed to his Letter to Gen. Clinton was

156 killed of the Brit. Army in the siege  
326 wounded  
70 missing . . . . .<sup>1</sup>

Nov. 21, The Reverend M<sup>r</sup> Noah Atwater late Tutor of Yale Coll. was ordained Pastor of the Chh in Westfield, late the pastoral Charge of the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Ballantine deceased. The Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Wales of Milfd preached; and the aged & venerable D<sup>r</sup> Stephen Williams of Springfield æt. 89 gave the Charge. . . . .]

## December

1. No snow on the Ground at N Haven. This day I heard two Classes recite. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Fitch returned from select<sup>g</sup> 500 Volumes of the College Library at M<sup>r</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> & M<sup>r</sup> Goodriches to be brought home to College from Northfd & Durham . . . .

2. Ldsdy. A.M. I preached in Chapel, Rev. xxii, 16, 17. After Sermon I admitted Goodrich 1, Gridly 1 & Kingsb<sup>y</sup> all of the Jun. Class into full Communion: then read a Recommend<sup>a</sup> of Storrs from the Pastor of 1<sup>st</sup> Chh Mansfield. Then I administered the Sacr<sup>t</sup> of the Lds Supper, there being 17 of us present Communicants. The Administr<sup>a</sup> being in the presence of all the Congreg<sup>a</sup> as has been constantly the practice since Professor Daggett's death. P.M. M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Ely preached Luke xviii, 29, 30. Communicants present

Myself

M<sup>r</sup> Tutor Ely

Sir Barnet

Sir Channing

Selden 1 } Seniors

Cornel } Seniors

Austin 1 }

Goodrich 1 }

Fuller 1 }

Gridly 1

Hall

Holmes 1

Kingsbury

Morse

Storrs 1

Weed

Badger

} Juniors

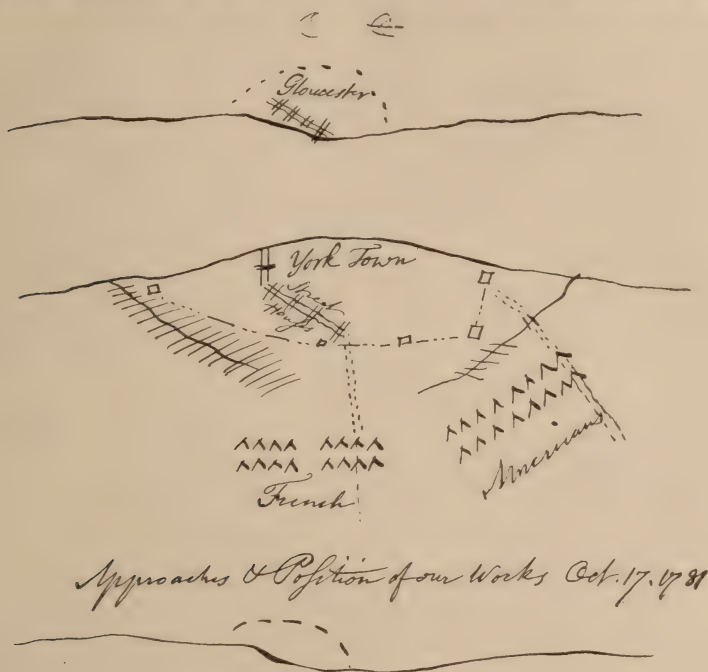
} Freshman

<sup>1</sup> A leaf of the Diary is here missing.

3. Therm° 42. Mild & pleasant. Omnia ab æterno decreta sunt.  
Bowen Resp.

4. Whether the Scriptures are of div. Inspiration? Sen<sup>rs</sup>.

5. In a Letter from the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Buckminster of Portsm<sup>o</sup> of 26<sup>th</sup> ult. we are informed of an Improv<sup>t</sup> of common Well pumps into a



[Plan by Dr. Stiles of Siege of Yorktown. See next page.]

fire Engine sufficient to extinguish the fire of a burning House,  
& also to water an adjacent Garden—Expence only Ten Dollars.—  
Invented by a young Gent. in Portsmouth. . . . .

After Even<sup>g</sup> Prayers I gave a Philosophical Lecture upon the  
Eruption of Mt. Vesuvius.

Spent the Even<sup>s</sup> with Col. Humphry Aid de Camp to his Excell<sup>y</sup> G. Washington, who gave an Acc<sup>o</sup> of the Siege & Capture of Ld Cornwallis, he having been present thro' the whole. He corrected my Plan.



1 Reg<sup>t</sup> Rh. Isld full—1 D<sup>o</sup> Gen Hazen 2 or 300—2 D<sup>o</sup> N. York full—2 D<sup>o</sup> N Jersey—3 Pensylv<sup>a</sup>—2 Maryl<sup>d</sup> full 1100—1 Virg. Contin.—1 D<sup>o</sup> Virginia State Reg<sup>t</sup>.—1 Batt. of Col. Hamiltons being 4 Companies—1 Detatch<sup>t</sup> Infantry Col. Scammel being eight Comp<sup>a</sup>—: 3 Reg<sup>ts</sup> Light Inf<sup>y</sup> Amer. being all the L. Inf<sup>y</sup> of Am. Army except those with G. Green in S<sup>o</sup> Car<sup>o</sup>—Besides these perhaps 3000 Virgin. Militia. Equal 18 Reg<sup>ts</sup> besides Militia.

|                                           |   |   |   |   |      |
|-------------------------------------------|---|---|---|---|------|
| French Troops fr. Rh. Isld say            | . | . | . | . | 4000 |
| Landed from Navy 3 full Reg <sup>ts</sup> | . | . | . | . | 3000 |
|                                           |   |   |   |   | —    |
|                                           |   |   |   |   | 7000 |



6. Eccl. Hist. Lecture. Last Saturday we brought home 500 Volumes of the College Library. . . .

8. Committed to the Care of Col. Humphry Gen. Washington's Diploma in a Tin Case to be delivered to his Excellency, to whom I wrote the following Letter :

YALE COLLEGE Dec. 8, 1781.

SIR

You will receive by Col. Humphry the Diploma of the Doctorate in Laws conferred upon you by the Senatus academicus of this University. That this Literary Honor, this Tribute of academic Respect proved agreeable, we are happy to find by the Letter of Acknowledgm<sup>t</sup> you did me the honor to write me upon this occasion. We rejoice that the Sovereign of the Universe hath hitherto supported you, as the Deliverer of your Country, the Defender of the Liberty & Rights of Humanity, and the Mæcenas of Science & Literature. We share the public Joy, and congratulate our Country, on the Glory of your Arms, and that Eminence to which you have ascended, in the recent Victory over the Earl of Cornwallis & his Army in Virginia, under such evident & astonish<sup>g</sup> Marks of the divine Interposition. With every Sentiment of Respect & Honor, I am, Sir,

Your Excellency's most obed<sup>t</sup> Serv<sup>t</sup>

EZRA STILES

His Excell<sup>y</sup> G. Washington.

This year has been published the fortieth Edition of Dr Watts's Psalms: it was printed at Newburyport in Massachusetts by M<sup>r</sup> Mycall, Printer. He with the Advice & Assist<sup>a</sup> of neighbor<sup>g</sup> ministers & others, has made some Alterations in Psalms where *G. Britain* is mentioned, & references to the King of G<sup>t</sup> Britain—as in the 75<sup>th</sup> Psalm. At first it may seem as if these alterations were many: however they really are but few. Thus the Ps. Book is well adapted to the Chh in America.

9. Ldsdy. I preached all day in the Coll. Chapel. A.M. Prov. xxi. 21. P.M. Jno. viii, 38. Communicated two Proclamations from Gov. Trumbull—one for the public Continental Thanksgiv<sup>g</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> Inst by Order of the Gov. & Council of this State upon Recommend<sup>a</sup> of Congress—the other for Contribution on s<sup>d</sup> 13<sup>th</sup> day for Sufferers at N Lond. & Groton by the Desolation of the Eny. under G. Arnold.

10. Omnis Actus Dei est sapientissimus. Dana Resp.

11. Whether Mountains & Vallies, with marine fossils in the Apalachian Hills, & Trees dug up 100 feet deep, and Dendrites &c prove the Deluge? Sen<sup>rs</sup>.

Henry Cruger Van Schaack & Francis Silvester both of Kinderhook exam<sup>d</sup> & admitted Freshmen, with Leave of Absence till

the End of Winter Vacation viz 29<sup>th</sup> Janry.<sup>1</sup> Freshmen admitted *Ninety two*.

Yesterday thro' the Patience of a holy Gd I was fifty four years old. I pray Gd, with whom are all my Changes, that the momentary Remnant of my days may be more devoted to his Glory & a benevolent Usefulness to Mankind than ever they have been.

12. Professor Strong bro't me a Copy of his three Lectures on some of the collateral mathematical Harmonies in the planetary system, prepared for the Press.<sup>2</sup>

13. Public Continental Thanksgiving. I preached at College Ps. cxi, 1, 2, 3. We had a Contribution for New London lately burned by the Eny. & collected £8. 1. 6. Silver.

15. This day Professor Strong made me his Resign<sup>a</sup> of his Professorship of Math. & Nat. Philosophy. He was elected to this office 1770.

I had a Conference with the Rev<sup>d</sup> M<sup>r</sup> Wales of Milford, who is elected Professor of Div<sup>y</sup> here. He left me some hopes of his Accept<sup>a</sup>—however still doubtful.

16. Ldsdy. I preached in Chapel A. M. Ps. cxliii, 1, 2. P.M. Mat. xviii, 11. Reading Melchior Adams Lives . . . .

17. Bruta ratiocinantur, Dana. Began to instruct 4 Bachelors in Hebrew. Also have another Heb. Class of 14 Sophimores.

18. Whether Monarchical or Republican Gov<sup>t</sup> be preferable? Examined & admitted Thomas Tousey into the Freshman Class—now 93. The Sup. Court met by adjournm<sup>t</sup>—and the Corpor<sup>a</sup> of Yale Coll. conven<sup>g</sup> here.

19. Quarter day. An Eng. Orat. by Root Sen. Soph.—a dramatic Exhibition of the Capture of Earl Cornwallis in Virginia. Actors—Lovett, Crocker, Woodruff, Merwin, W<sup>ms</sup>, Canfield, Cornell, Noyes, Ives & Thompson.

Eight of the Fellows of the Corpor<sup>a</sup> present viz Mess<sup>rs</sup>. Warh. W<sup>ms</sup>, Trumbul, Taylor, Goodrich, Mather, Lockwd, Pitkin, Huntington. We had a Conference with M<sup>r</sup> Wales; agreed to vote him £155. stated on Provisions, as my salary of £160. And appointed Mess<sup>rs</sup> W<sup>ms</sup> Good. Hunt. & myself a Committee to treat

<sup>1</sup>These young men, who were first cousins, did not return to Yale. Van Schaack (son of Judge Peter Van Schaack) was graduated at Columbia in 1787, and Silvester (son of Judge Peter Silvester) in 1786.

<sup>2</sup>These lectures were published in 1784, with the title, *Astronomy Improved*, and are dedicated to President Stiles.

with the (M<sup>r</sup> Wales) Chh & Society at Milfd & negotiate if possible his Dismission & Transl<sup>a</sup> to the Professorship, if he shd finally accept that Office.

20. Corporation went home.

23. Ldsdy. I preached in Chapel A.M. Ps. xxv, 4, 5. P.M. Tit. iii, 4-7. Present the Judges of the Sup. Court &c.

24. Nulla Deceptio est licita. Hooker, Resp.

25. Whether it is unlawful to resist the civil Magistrate? Seniors. D<sup>r</sup> Gordon here.

26. M<sup>r</sup> Strong by a Letter dated 14<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> resigned his Professorship of Math. & Nat. Philosophy. I laid the Lett. before the Corpor<sup>a</sup> 18<sup>th</sup> Ins<sup>t</sup> and his Resign<sup>a</sup> was accepted.<sup>1</sup>

27. I exhibited my Lecture on Eccl. History. D<sup>r</sup> Gordon told me that M<sup>r</sup> Willard had accepted the Presid<sup>y</sup> of Harv. Coll. conditionally, if the Gen. Assembly would grant a fixt & permanent Salary.

28. I finished read<sup>g</sup> Orpheus's Expedition of the 50 Argonauts after the golden Fleece.

29. I have begun a Matricula Universitatis for Yale College, inscribing the Classes of Undergraduates from my accession to the Presidency.

30. Ldsdy. I preached in the Coll. Chapel A.M. Hosea v, 3. P.M. Isai. lxiii, 1.

31. Non datur Calor in Igne. Fuller Resp. . . . . I have preached this year past at College & elsewhere equal to Thirty seven whole Sabbaths.

<sup>1</sup> The Professor considered that his resignation was forced upon him by the unwillingness of the Corporation to provide him with a living salary.







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